Sneak attack: The city attorney tries to scuttle the MUD [p.13]

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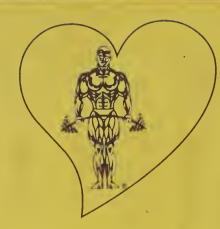
A special Valentine's Day oyster tasting. Plus: What to eat [p.34] and where to go [p.64]





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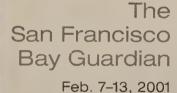
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• Hallinan deploys "Three Strikes" law against nonviolent burglar.

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Undaunted: Former deputy public defender Jeff Adachi launched his campaign for public defender Jan. 31 at the Japanese Cultural Center. Adachi was fired two weeks ago by Public Defender Kimiko Burton — his chief opponent in the race.

cover story California dreamers

A little-known band that's been holed up in a Sunnyvale tract house is writing a new chapter in the classic California sound. Meet the Orange Peels. Plus: Tortoise, two views of Le Tigre, Babyface, and a new singles column. In *Noise*.

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U'wa leader Roberto Pérez speaks about indigenous resistance to the Colombian oil rush. *By Camille T. Taiara*

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• As a key board vote nears, the city attorney tries to scuttle the MUD petition.
By Rachel Brahinsky.

 Tenderloin hotel residents lose treasured meal service.
 By Adam Jernigan.

• Edison school chain's P.R. blitz gets help from media.

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Got It Bad59

J. Johnston, Mayor Brown's press

secretary, called me the other day

to complain that I wasn't giving the

mayor enough credit for his sudden

interest in public power. We had our

mats say); the gist of it was that P.J.

the mayor at his word.

taking the right stand.

usual "frank" discussion (as the diplo-

thought it was unfair of me not to take

Brown says he's really mad at Pacific

Gas and Electric Company and wants

some form of public power for San Francisco (although he won't endorse

the only existing public power mea-

sure, the municipal utility district initiative, which is headed for the No-

vember ballot). Since the mayor says it,

and I should heap praise upon him for

The problem is that I can't just for-

get everything I've ever known about

Willie Brown has never supported

PG&E's side. PG&E contributed at least

\$16,000 (in soft money) to his mayoral

Ashcroft's promise to enforce the laws

protecting reproductive rights, Brown's

conversion to the public power fold

strikes me as a bit less than credible.

Brown and decide to believe him.

public power. He's always been on

reelection campaign. So, like John

P.I. insists, the mayor must mean it,

in this issue

Breaking out.

By Jeff Chang.

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I feel the same way about the city at-

Brahinsky reports on page 13, Renne's

office is trying to convince the supervi-

sors that there's a better way to bring

public power to the city than through

a MUD. Her office's position is similar

to the mayor's: Sure, we're all for pub-

lic power. We just don't like this partic-

ular public power measure that's now

before the supervisors. Given Renne's

but suspect a PG&E trick.

a new city attorney.)

long, long history here, I just can't help

(This is the problem with a city at-

torney who can't be trusted on big

power-structure issues. The supervi-

sors are in a bind: If they take her legal

advice, they're undermining the pro-

gressive agenda. If they don't, they're

ignoring their lawyer's advice. We need

I hope I'm wrong. I hope Brown and

Renne aren't trying to fool us, to grab

the political spotlight when it's conve-

nient, and then do some backroom deal

that makes sure PG&E keeps control of

its lucrative franchise in San Francisco.

But they have, as the lawyers say, a high

Tim Redmond

tredmond@sfbg.com

standard of proof right now. They

could start by supporting the MUD.

torney, Louise Renne. As Rachel

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PG&E and the energy crisis Our coverage dating back to 1969 plus links to resources. sfbg.com/News /pgande

Why Ashcroft wants the job

And why Clinton waited on longoverdue executive orders. Read Ralph Nader's In the Public Interest, every Monday. sfbg.com/nader

The rest of the world

U.S. media ignore World Social Forum in Brazil. Read Norman Solomon's MediaBeat, online every Friday. sfbg.com/MediaBeat

TV picks

Raiph Bunche, on KQED, channel 9, Thurs/8, 10 p.m. Marcus Garvey, Mon/12, 10 p.m. sfbg.com/media

'David and Lisa'

Anhoni Patel watches them work out the kinks, in VHS Nation. sfbg.com /AandE/vhs

Sfblog

The net mix from sfbg.com, including the plight of the midlist writer. sfbg.com/sfblog

Easier for the camel and whatnot

Looseleaf, new short fiction every Thursday by Dan Leone. sfbg.com /looseleaf

Personal doormat

Almost any scene can be considered humiliating. Mistress Marisha's BDSM Q&A, The Truth Hurts. sfbg.com /truth

Male G-spot!

It's a delightfully ass-backwards phrase. A new, uncut asc by Andrea Nemerson posts at noon every Friday. www.sfbg.com/asc

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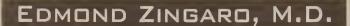
ENTERTAINMENT

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The Navy invites you to attend an Open House from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., February 20, 2001, at the Casa de la Vista Building on Treasure Island. Drop by anytime during the announced hours to learn more about the environmental cleanup activities on Treasure Island and meet members of the RAB.

The Navy encourages you to consider joining the Treasure Island RAB. Applications for membership are now being accepted. As a community member, there is no requirement for special skills or qualifications, other than an interest in participating in the environmental cleanup. To learn more about the Treasure Island RAB, you may attend the next RAB meeting, held the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m., at the Casa de la Vista Building on Treasure Island. You may also obtain further information or a RAB application by contacting the Navy's representative:

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Naval Station Treasure Island
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letters

Justice for J.J. Tennison

We at California Prison Focus think reporter Adam Clay Thompson should be given thanks by our imprisoned communities for reporting on the case of J.J. Tennison's struggle to get out of an erroneous 25-year prison sentence ["The Hardest Time," 1/17/01]. Tennison was convicted in 1989 for the shotgun slaving of Roderick "Cooly" Shannon during a gang-faction retaliation, as recounted in the Bay Guardian. Mule Creek Prison, where Tennison presently resides, is regarded by our human rights organization as a maximumsecurity, state-induced nightmare to be avoided at all cost. One can literally lose his life "doing time" there with little if any official inquiries made or required as to cause of death or injury. Our prison work puts us in touch with all of California's 33 major prison installations and from what prisoners tell us, each prison is extremely dangerous to be in. We routinely ask: who are the real criminals today who place innocent people inside these hellholes?

Tennison's San Francisco public defender should be recognized for his humanity in not abandoning his former client these past 10 years. The Tennison family must find some slight hope of vindication because of Jeff Adachi's continuing efforts to set things right by seeking a retrial. From my own past prison experience — I was at San Quentin for 12 years — and also from personal involvement with California's criminal justice system over 40 years, I must say, public defenders get a justifiable bad rap behind prison walls. In the minds of the

convicted there is a clear certainty that a dump truck "pidichi" lurks in all public defender offices across the state. Defending our communities, it would seem, is not a high priority on legal career agendas.

We hope J.l. Tennison will not give up hope nor cease trying to prove his innocence. Other prisoners similarly situated need his justice. Only from inside prison can the legal waste mill be seen for what it is and injustice understood.

Bato Talamantez California Prison Focus San Francisco

Equal access ballet

As a longtime dance activist in the Bay Area, now assistant professor of dance at Bowling Green State University in Ohio and returning home for the holidays, I had occasion to read Sima Belmar's informative article ["Stepping on Toe Shoes," 12/27/00]. I would like to give a big high five to Krissy Keefer for her courage to legally take to task the S.F. Ballet School's acceptance standards. As the founder of CitiCentre Dance Theatre, Oakland's oldest multicultural dance institution, and founder of the national dance initiative Black Choreographers Moving toward the 21st Century, that took place at Theatre Artaud from 1989 to 1995, 1 too have fought long and hard to offer dance alternatives to ballet's stultifying cultural codes of the body. These repressive codes rest on early 20th century European male ideas of women as objects, and thanks to George Balanchine, Americans are still mentally and aesthetically colonized by these antiquated dance mores. My focus on African dance's healthy vitality and black choreographers' fusion aesthetics have led me to understanding other conceptual frameworks for dance that Keefer and others have been a part of institutionalizing.

Balanchine not only set a razor-thin body standard for female ballet dancers, but he also promoted covert racism as well. He is often quoted as saying that "a ballerina's skin should be the color of a pecied apple." I knew few African American ballet students who could pass the peeled-apple test. Belmar is absolutely right when she reveals that "At the heart of the conflict is the question of who gets access to the economy," Ballet, for too long, has reigned as a white-dominated dance form with powerful boards of directors who are connected to the upper class. In the majority of American cities classical ballet, therefore, garners an almost pro forma exorbitant amount of arts funding, and San Francisco is certainly no exception. Although 1 disagree with Keefer's belief that ballet technique "is the most thorough, expedient, and strength-building" dance form, I do believe that all technically proficient young dancers of taxpaying families should be allowed equal access to the S.F. Ballet School.

> Halifu Osumare Bowling Green State University Toledo, Oliio

For the record

In our editorial "Power for the People" (1/24/01), we mistakenly referenced KPFA radio station as being located

at 88.5 on the FM dial. It is actually at 94.1 FM.

TROUBLETOWN

HALF 'N' HALF AND THE COFFEE WHITENER INDUSTRY HAD FOUGHT LONG & HARD FOR DEREGULATION.











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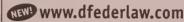
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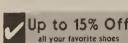
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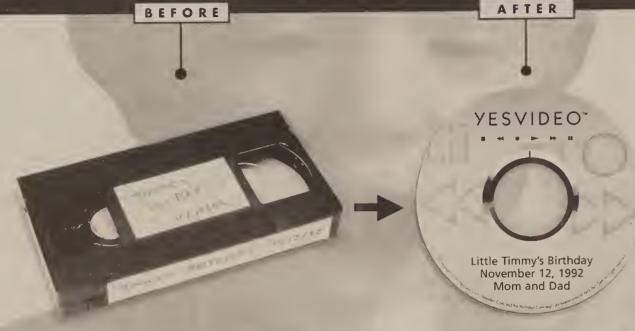
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opinion
by rebecca vilkomerson

Take back the budget

n 1998 San Francisco's homeless families were increasingly desperate, waiting for up to two months just to get into "emergency" shelter. In response, a few community-based organizations spent several months of time and energy getting a resolution passed by the Board of Supervisors stating that no homeless family should be turned away from shelter in San Francisco, Hundreds of homeless family members testified in favor of the resolution, and it passed easily.

Unfortunately, that's not the end of the story. Two and a half years later, there are still a hundred families waiting to access the homeless shelter system, the same number as before the resolution.

This is just one example of the hard lesson that community-based, grassroots organizations have had to learn: city policy is largely determined by the city budget. For example, of General Fund money (money that has no strings attached and therefore can be distributed in any way the mayor and Board of Supervisors decide) available in the fiscal year 1999-2000 budget, 40 percent went to "public safety" (police and fire departments), while 11 percent went to social services and 19 percent to public health. So when city spokespeople say, for example, that there is "not enough money" to keep the pharmacy at S.F. General Hospital open, what they really mean is, "We are choosing to use your money instead to put more cops on the street."

The idea to create a People's Budget was born out of the frustration of seeing our money allocated without our input and without our needs in mind. Now entering its fourth year, the People's Budget Collaborative is made up of more than 40 community-based organizations that fight together for democratization of the budget process, for greater budget equity, and for funding programs that create permanent exits from poverty.

The People's Budget also includes proposals for increasing city revenue, including putting an end to corporate welfare. For example, the city is currently negotiating a \$27 million tax-break deal with Bloomingdale's. That subsidy, and others like it, translates directly into dollars that would otherwise go into the General Fund and reduces the city's ability to fund crucial programs.

Every program in the People's Budget includes an analysis of potential cost savings for the city. An investment in the people of San Francisco, whether in the form of substance-abuse treatment services, the preservation of affordable housing, the creation of quality child care, or paying a living wage, ultimately saves the city money in hospital care costs, social services, and income supports. For example, it's well documented that for every dollar spent on substance-abuse treatment, seven dollars is saved in costs such as emergency hospital treatment. However, city budget policy doesn't allow for investing in programs that will reap fiscal, as well as quality-of-life, benefits down the line.

Incorporating long-term planning into the budget process is just one idea we have in mind. Changes in the tax structure and tax-assessment systems is another. We also want to eliminate funding for programs that criminalize homeless people, young people, and people of color. We have to fight to maintain the funding for programs we won in previous years (almost \$20 million last year) and continue to fight for the programs that the community wants and needs, rather than sweetheart deals for downtown campaign donors.

All this adds up to a radical rethinking of the process and purpose of the city budget, and thus city policy, so we have a lot to do. The People's Budget Collaborative is only exactly as strong as the efforts of its members. We need your help.

This year the People's Budget will have five categories: housing; health (including public health and substance abuse/mental health treatment); economic justice (encompassing fair wages, child care, transportation, education, and training); civil rights; and revenue. We need more ideas, more participation in strategy sessions, more connections with organizations around the city, more attendance at budget hearings. We welcome anyone who supports our principles and is ready to work.

Last spring the Bay Guardian editorialized, "any supervisor who would rather help the mayor's cronies get even wealthier as the gap between San Francisco's rich and poor gets ever wider should be voted out of office in November." Well, that's pretty much what happened, and it proved two things: we can take back the city, and the time is now. Please join us. *

Rebecca Vilkomerson works at the Homeless Prenatal Program and is a founding member of the People's Budget Collaborative. For more information about the People's Budget call Riva Enteen at (415) 285-1055.

editorials

Put MUD on the ballot

oug Comstock, the political consultant who has been working with the municipal utility has been working with the mainer and district campaign, made the point very nicely last week, in testimony before the Board of Supervisors' Rules Committee. The struggle to get a MUD initiative on the ballot, he said, is sort of like Lucy and Charlie Brown playing football: "Every time we try to make a move, the city attorney pulls the football out from under us, and we end up lying flat on our backs."

And now, with the supervisors scheduled to vote on the MUD measure Feb. 12, it's happening

As Rachel Brahinsky reports on page 13, City Attorney Louise Renne is moving quietly, behind the scenes at City Hall to undermine the MUD campaign and convince the supervisors not to put the MUD initiative on the ballot — and she's having an alarming level of success.

Even a few of the newly elected progressive supervisors - people who pledged publicly to support the MUD - are now showing signs that they could capitulate to the city attorney. That's a big political mistake: Renne has never, ever supported public power. She's sided with Pacific Gas and Electric Company on the issue time and time again. She has a direct conflict of interest in the matter, too: her husband, Paul, is a partner in a law firm — Cooley, Godward that earned \$3 million representing PG&E from

So the City Attorney's Office simply can't be trusted on anything involving public power and

Renne's office argues that there are flaws in the process that brought the MUD plan before the supervisors. Among other things, deputy city attorney Buck Delventhal insisted at the Rules Committee meeting Feb. 1 that the Local Agency Formation Commission failed to conduct an adequate review of the MUD petition before forwarding it to the supervisors. LAFCO chair Neil Eisenberg strongly disagreed, as did former supervisor Angela Alioto, who is the attorney for the MUD campaign.

But as Sup. Tom Ammiano pointed out at the hearing, the city attorney's criticisms are mostly legal technicalities — and Rules Committee chair Sup. Matt Gonzalez proposed a creative solution. Instead of predicting what the courts might or might not do about what LAFCO might or might not have done, he suggested that the supervisors vote to put the MUD petition on the ballot — and simultaneously send a "ghost version" of the plan back to LAFCO for further hearings to clear up any possible legal issues that might arise. There's ample time to do that before the November election.

Gonzalez's plan makes perfect sense. After all, 24,000 San Francisco and Brisbane residents signed petitions to put the matter on the ballot, and a grassroots coalition has worked for more than two years to get the plan this far. It would be a terrible slap in the face of all those voters for the board to use some legal details that are brought up suddenly at the last minute by an anti-public power city attorney to prevent an election on the MUD.

And, as Ammiano said at the hearing, there's far too much at stake here: PG&E's rates are soaring, and people on low and fixed incomes are going to be forced to choose between food and lights.

This is a pivotal test of the political sophistication and resolve of the new board. When the MUD petition comes up Feb. 12, the supervisors should vote without delay to put it on the November ballot. *

P.S. There are several measures pending in the state legislature that would affect the city's ability to form a MUD. Gov. Gray Davis's plan to sell state bonds and buy power in long-term contracts has elements that might undermine public power. A plan by state senator Nell Soto, on the other hand, would make it easier to form a MUD and eliminate a lot of the red tape that the City Attorney's Office is dredging up. It's critical that San Francisco's delegation - Assemblymembers Carole Migden and Kevin Shelley and Sen. John Burton - oppose any plan that would hurt local MUD efforts and support the Soto bill, and Sup. Ammiano introduced a resolution Feb. 5 calling on them to do so. Meanwhile, the city has a paid lobbyist in Sacramento - and the Board of Supervisors has not been terribly aggressive in the past about telling that lobbyist what to do. This new board ought to direct the city's lobbyist to press for state legislation that will help the MUD effort and to monitor the current bills and keep the board and the public informed of their status.

'Three Strikes' madness

I have used the Three Strikes law judiciously, charging a third strike only when the crime is especially heinous and violent.

> S.F. district attorney Terence Hallinan San Francisco Chronicle Oct. 22, 1999

arry Davis finds that statement pretty ironic. Since 1986 he's been addicted to crack. Since ■1987 he's done burglaries to fund his \$70-aday habit. And as crackheads don't make good thieves, he's been in and out of jail since that

As A. Clay Thompson reports on page 13, in the spring of 1999 Davis was busted trying to steal a CD player from a Howard Street loft. Deputy district attorney Robert Gordon charged him with burglary and trespassing and asked for the maximum penalty possible under "Three Strikes, You're Out": 25 years to life in the state penitentiary. In asking for the harsh sentence, Gordon cited Davis's previous criminal history. The man has 11 felony convictions, most for burglary.

This is exactly the kind of case that has led to widespread criticism of the Three Strikes law - and San Francisco district attorney Terence Hallinan has been one of the leading critics. Davis doesn't have a history of violent felonies. He isn't a murderer or a rapist. His third strike involves stealing a piece of electronic equipment worth at most a few hundred dollars. For this, he could spend the rest of his life in prison.

Does Davis truly deserve that kind of permanent punishment?

In December Davis was convicted. His fate now lies in hands of Superior Court judge James L. Warren, who this week will hand down a sentence. Hallinan ought to urge the judge to make the sentence fit the crime, and demonstrate that his office is actually practicing what he preaches. And while Davis isn't the sort of convict who inspires massive political rallies, foes of Three Strikes need to look at low-profile cases like this one, too, as an example of what's wrong with the criminal justice system. 🍪

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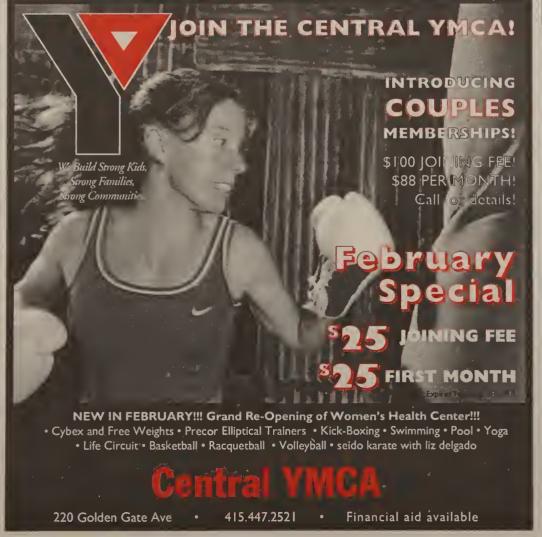
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Hallinan deploys "Three Strikes" law against nonviolent burglar

By A. Clay Thompson

There's no hint of violence on Larry Davis's 14-year rap sheet. But the 36-year-old African American will likely spend the rest of his life in prison, sentenced under the state's "Three Strikes, You're Out" law. His crime: burglary to finance his longtime addiction to crack.

Despite his repeated policy statements condemning Three Strikes, San Francisco district attorney Terence Hallinan is using the law to keep Davis locked up forever.

In late December a San Francisco jury convicted Davis — a hard-looking 280-pound man with a scarred forehead — of attempting to steal a CD player from an occupied SoMa live-work space. Citing four previous convictions for burglary, and one for drug possession, deputy district attorney Robert Gordon asked Superior Court Judge James L. Warren to hit Davis with the maximum penalty set out by Three Strikes: 25 years to life in the state pen.

The sentencing decision lies with Warren, who this week will announce the specifics of Davis's punishment, in effect deciding whether a rock-addicted thief deserves the kind of prison time once reserved for serial killers.

"I think Three Strikes was meant for

people like Richard Ramirez," Davis said during a jailhouse interview with the *Bay Guardian*. "I feel that I'm not a Three Strikes candidate. I don't belong in prison for 25 years. I have a drug problem. I've been begging for help for a long time — for a long-term [rehab] program."

Davis, who never finished ninth grade — and who goes by the über-thuggish nickname "Huggy" — is consumed by the knowledge that he may never walk free again. "I think about it all the time ... It brings tears to my eyes sometimes."

Since discovering crack in 1986, he's racked up a total of 11 felonies, doing time in a half dozen state lockups, learning to read at the age of 20 in a San Ouentin cell.

In the six years that Three Strikes has been on the books, liberal district attorney Hallinan has used the statute sparingly — less than any other prosecutor in the state. He's been vocal in his criticism of the law, successfully running for district attorney twice on a platform opposing Three Strikes, and questioning its constitutionality. The law "is being used to put middle-age black men in jail for life for nonviolent offenses, and that's not right," Hallinan railed in a 1995 San Francisco Chronicle story.

Now, with Davis looking at perma-

nent time in the penitentiary, court observers are wondering if the D.A. has pulled an about-face.

"Larry Davis is facing a life sentence for pure chickenshit stuff," said attorney Erwin Fredrich, who is representing Davis. "He needs a drug program. That's what he really needs."

Gordon — obviously — disagrees. Hallinan personally met with Fredrich on two occasions and "listened carefully to what the defense attorney had to say," Gordon told us. "When we looked at the history of this particular person, it became apparent that he wasn't getting the message, no matter how many times he went to prison." In a legal brief filed with the court, Gordon pointed out that he actually could have sought a longer sentence of 35 years to life for Davis.

In addition to Davis's lengthy criminal history, prosecutors were bothered by the fact that he broke into an occupied home at 3:45 a.m., scaring the occupants of the loft. "They were terrified," Gordon said

For a chronic recidivist, Davis has a surprising number of supporters in law enforcement: last spring four high-ranking sheriff's deputies sent Warren letters asking for clemency for prisoner 174657. "In my opinion, inmate Davis is

DIAN PHOTO EY LORISPEARS

Davis: "I don't belong in prison for 25 years. I have a drug problem. I've been begging for help for a long time."

a mild mannered man who possesses a pleasant demeanor," wrote Lt. Douglas Chin. "Based on my knowledge of inmate Davis, I do not believe he is a violent person. In fact, there are no charges of violence in his criminal history nor has he displayed any violent behavior since he has been in custody."

In a message echoed by his fellow law officers, Chin called on Warren to "exercise some discretion" in sentencing Davis. "He must obviously pay for the crime he has committed, but there are many inmates currently in custody who have committed far worse crimes, and they are not facing as harsh a sentence as inmate Davis." .*

E-mail A. Clay Thompson at ac_thompson@sfbg.com.

Sneak attack

As a key board vote nears, the city attorney tries to scuttle the MUD petition

By Rachel Brahinsky

Just days before a historic Feb. 12 San Francisco Board of Supervisors vote on public power, the City Attorney's Office has launched a backroom attack aimed at scuttling the grassroots petition to put a municipal utility district on the ballot.

The Board of Supervisors' Rules Committee voted unanimously Feb. 1 to let the

full board decide whether to put the MUD petition before the voters. But several supervisors and their aides have told us that representatives from the City Attorney's Office have been nieeting with members of the board to recommend alternatives to the MUD proposal. The City Attorney's Office, they say, is trying to raise doubts about the viability of the MUD.

And advocates of public power warn that City Attorney Louise Renne's office has long made clear its opposition to public power.

"Renne has been fighting public power for years," said Angela Alioto, attorney for the Coalition for Lower Utility Bills (CLUB). "She did everything that she could from the inception of the public power committee, when I was on the Board of Supervisors, to make sure that public power could not happen."

When questioned at the Rules Committee hearing, deputy city attorney Buck Delventhal explained the argument: because the county's Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO, the agency formed See "MUD," page 16

The last supper

Tenderloin hotel residents lose treasured meal service

By Adam Jernigan

For more than 50 years the Tenderloin's Harcourt Hotel was a residence club where elderly and disabled tenants could make a comfortable home. Rent also covered two meals a day. Come nightfall, longtime tenants and worldly travelers would spill into the dining room, transforming it, as resident Bruce Pardoll recalls, into "a cross between a cosmopolitan eatery and Cheers: a place where everybody knew your name."

But in November new property manager Gerda Kircher discontinued the meal service and closed the kitchen and dining areas. The move meant layoffs for 25 tenants who had worked for the building, exchanging their labor for room and board, say longtime residents of the 92-unit single-room-occupancy building, located on Larkin at Sutter Street. Almost all of those tenants were immediately booted out of the building,

residents say; and only two of them now remain.

While the remaining tenants still have their rooms to be thankful for, little remains of the environment they once cherished. Prohibited from cooking in their rooms and lacking even a residential refrigerator or microwave, the low-income tenants are faced with eating restaurant fare. Kircher initially offered them a \$12.50 daily voucher for the Chinese American dining spot across the street, but after a month even the vouchers disappeared, replaced by a \$200 rent reduction.

Kircher declined to comment, but anyone can do the math. Her \$200-amonth rent cut amounts to less than \$7 a day — a skimpy budget for two meals and barely half the value of the original vouchers. "Wow, that's not very much," former property manager Michael Lieberman said.

In her only meeting with tenants, resident Dave Taylor says, Kircher

promised to preserve the dining room as a community space and suggested that she might even add a piano. But four months later a tour of the building found the dining room not only locked but, as the view through a broken shutter confirmed, converted into a storage area. A trip to the fifth-floor television room — the building's only remaining communal area — revealed electric sockets gaping from walls where vending machines once stood; residents cite shortages of everything from towels to toilet paper.

Members of the Harcourt Tenants'

Association say that they appreciate Kircher's attention to the physical condition of the building — she refinished the roof and plans to retrofit in the spring — but that they're frustrated by Kircher's apparent refusal to meet with them. The group petitioned to meet Kircher in mediation before the San Francisco Rent Board. At the meeting, set for Feb. 7, tenants will push for the return of their community meal service — or at least greater rent compensation to make up for the loss of their meals and social space. ❖

Sup. McGoldrick proposes hearings on Pier 30/32 project

iting last week's *Bay Guardian* report that the Port of San Francisco may float a \$30 million municipal bond measure to help a corporate team develop Pier 30/32, Sup. Jake McGoldrick called Monday for hearings on the contracting practices of the Port Commission. McGoldrick said he wants to investigate questions about how the port justifies choosing the winning bidder for the project over a competing team that offered more revenue. "The allegation is whether the port showed favoritism because of political connections," McGoldrick said. "It is our duty to investigate ... so the public has confidence in the port's contracting." *

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Full-court press

Edison school chain's P.R. blitz gets help from media

By Tali WoodwardFor-profit Edison Schools Inc. is scrambling to maintain its grip on Edison Charter Academy, the Noe Valley elementary school it took over almost three years ago. Facing a new school board that plans to revoke Edison's charter, the national school management firm is waging an aggressive public relations campaign. And major media outlets are bolstering Edison's cause with some inaccurate test score data.

The corporation dispatched a New York administrator to San Francisco to rally parents against revocation and provided supporters a bus ride to the Ian, 23 San Francisco Board of Education meeting, where schoolchildren waved signs declaring, "Edison Rocks," and backers urged the board not to, as one speaker put it, "dismantle a system that allows our children to succeed."

Critics suggest that the public relations blitz owes more to pending Edison proposals to take over five schools in New York City and six in Chicago than to concern about Edison Charter Academy stu-

"It's so clear they're putting profits before the kids — they're using them as pawns," said Dylan Bernstein of Oakland's Center for Commercial-Free Public Education. "They know that the charter is going to be revoked; they want this so that they can continue to expand."

"It's very clear that the board is moving in a particular direction," said Gaynor Mc-Cown, Edison's senior vice president of marketing. "Should our charter be revoked,

we will fight it in every way we can. We will definitely pursue any appeals process."

Board of Education president Jill Wynns plans to introduce a measure Feb. 13 that would return the school to district control

National and international press have slammed the board for looking to end the charter. In a Jan. 17 editorial, the Wall Street Journal claimed that 35 percent of the school's fifth graders scored at the national average in reading last year - up from 2 percent before Edison moved in. The Economist ran with the same statistics two weeks earlier.

But those figures are off the mark, according to data posted on the San Francisco Unified School District's Web site. Thirty-five percent of last year's fifth graders did meet the national average. But the year before Edison Inc. came in, that percentage was 24, not 2.

Looking at another measure, the school's progress is even more questionable. Last spring 28.5 percent of fifth graders scored in the top two quartiles in reading. Before Edison Inc. took over, that percentage was 17.7. But the year prior it was 29.2 — higher than the current rate.

The fact that both publications printed incorrect statistics suggests that the numbers were supplied by Edison Inc. The Wall Street Journal did not respond to detailed, written questions from the Bay

The Economist's editorial writer told us that he got the statistics from an Edison Charter Academy teacher.

"I did not give them that information," McCown told us. But she wouldn't rule out the possibility that it came from others in the company.

The inaccurate statistics are swaying community sentiment: they've been repeated in one of several letters supporting the charter that were printed in the San Francisco Chronicle and the Independent. The letter writers weren't all concerned parents; several told us they wrote in after reading the press accounts.

A welcoming sign hanging in front of the San Francisco Edison school gushes. "Come see our test scores!" But when we tried to visit the school, we were sent to the principal's office and told, by staffer Fabiola Harvey, that "the protocol for our school is that you set up an appointment with [McCown] or our principal." After telling us that we could return for one of the scheduled Wednesday tours, another staffer trailed us on our way out.

Edison Inc. has never had a charter revoked, but a year ago Edison's first contract to run a Sherman, Texas, elementary school --- was not renewed. Administrators there said that working with Edison, which had reduced staffing and failed to raise test scores, was costing the district an extra \$1 million a year.

The San Francisco charter was narrowly approved in 1998 amid the controversial dealings of former superintendent Bill Rojas (see "School for Scandal," 10/28/98). There is concern that the arrangement is costing the district money and that high rates of teacher turnover - two-thirds of the teachers who worked there in the fall of 1999 did not return this year - coupled with the company's scripted curriculum is bad for students (see "Edison Exodus." 7/19/00). There's also evidence that lowincome and minority students have been replaced with other kids who are likely to score higher on standardized tests. 🌣

E-niail Tali Woodward at tali@sfbg.com.



TOM TOMORROW'S







s.f. confidential By gabriel roth

Unity of church and cash

ost San Franciscans — certainly most of the ones I know aren't too happy about the Bush administration. But why fight the tide? Let's make Republican policies work for us.

Chewing the fat — and the free sushi at public-defender hopeful Jeff Adachi's campaign-kickoff party last week, Sup. Chris Daly suggested a way for local do-gooders to cash in on Dubya's reign: become a minister, then apply for a grant from the president's new Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives.

The first part is easy, thanks to online ordination mills like the Universal Life Church. I connected to www.ulc.org, and less than three minutes later I was printing out a certificate proclaiming me Rev. Gabriel Roth.

Sadly, the cash-for-clergy office won't be open until Feb. 20 - which gives me a few weeks to figure out what kind of faith-based program I'm going to run. In the meantime I can now legally perform marriages in California. Give me a call if you're interested.

What about genuine service providers, rather than sarcastic columnists? Will any of them be joining the cloth to take advantage of Bush's largesse? Paul Boden of the Coalition on Homelessness says he won't take any government funds at all, even from agencies that don't trample all over the establishment clause. And Randy Shaw of the Tenderloin Housing Clinic says he won't leave the Jewish faith, even for a fat grant.

Sister Bernie Galvin, the nun who leads Religious Witness with Homeless People, wouldn't even need to sign up on the Internet. But she won't be asking Bush for money either. For one thing, like Boden, she stays clear of public funds; for another, she hates Bush's plan. "It's a treacherous violation of the separation of church and state," she says.

The district elections diversity challenge

Ideological diversity and demographic diversity don't always go hand in hand. For proof, look to the new Board of Supervisors: more independent and freethinking than any in years — and 64 percent white male.

Latino representation is up from one seat to two, and there is still one African American on the board. But there's only one Asian American supervisor instead of three — and only one of the 11 supervisors is a woman.

Progressives pushed to go back to the district system. Now the best way for us to defend that system is to take these problems seriously.

The Asian-representation issue could be addressed when the district lines are redrawn in response to the new census figures - although the Asian community's geographic dispersal will make that difficult.

The gender problem has more complicated roots, but that doesn't mean we should dismiss it as a coincidence.

In December Tim Redmond wrote in this paper that the shortage of women "is odd, and a bad thing, but I'm not sure exactly what it has to do with district elections" ("In This Issue," 12/13/00).

Here's what: District elections decentralize political influence. The new supervisors' power bases are community groups, neighborhood associations, and social activists. Those groups are more democratic and more representative than the moneyed interests that dominated the citywide election system. But they're not always sufficiently egalitarian.

For all the day-to-day work done by women, it's the men who seem to seize the spotlight, give the interviews, serve as the organization's public face. And by and large, it was men who stepped forward as candidates.

(Here's an example from close to home: It was Cassi Feldman, who sits at the desk next to mine at the Bay Guardian, who first made the point in the previous paragraphs. It was me talking about the issue with Chinese American activist David Lee and political scientist Rich DeLeon on KALW-FM's City Visions Monday night.)

The attack on district elections is just beginning. A return to citywide voting would be the fastest way for big business to regain control of the board. And downtown will be quick to co-opt the race-and-gender issue. The developers and CEOs would be very happy with another racially diverse, sexually balanced — and ideologically homogenous — legislature.

So it's up to the people with real power in the district-elections system — the communities and neighborhoods — to cultivate women leaders, let them have the public eye, and groom them for office in the coming election cycles.

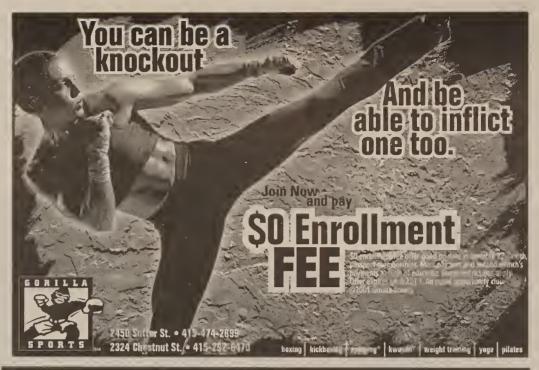
In a city with a long history of electing women, those candidates would only increase grassroots groups' clout. And they'd deprive district-elections opponents of a potential wedge issue. If we don't mend district elections, big money could still find a way to end it.

Bizarre coincidences

On Jan. 3 state senate majority leader John Burton introduced a bill that would "extend an invitation to the people of the Gujarat State, India, to join with California in a sister state relationship in order to encourage and facilitate mutually beneficial social, economic, educational, and cultural exchanges." On Jan. 25 the senate unanimously approved the bill and sent it to the assembly.

The following morning, Gujarat State was struck by a massive earthquake, killing an estimated 25,000 people. ❖

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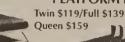
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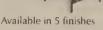
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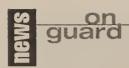


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From page 13

last fall specifically to review the MUD petition) didn't conduct studies required by state law, including an environmental impact report, the MUD petition would be vulnerable to a legal challenge.

But San Francisco LAFCO chair Neil Eisenberg said the agency plans to study the issue in the coming months. He added that the group set up guidelines last fall that allow the petition to go directly to the voters before such studies are completed.

Delventhal, however, maintained that LAFCO's moves were illegal and insisted that the petition could end up in court.

In the wake of the city attorney's lobbying efforts, a few board members who have been strong MUD supporters now say they have new questions about the proposed measure. Among their concerns is the map that defines the MUD ward boundaries.

The map divides the city into five sections, approximately along the lines of the existing supervisorial districts, except for District 11, which is parceled out more than the rest.

"I know that it doesn't matter in some way because of the way the vote has been set up, [but] there's concern out

there about the way District 11 has been split," Sup. Gerardo Sandoval told us. Sandoval was also concerned that the map had not been subject to enough public hearings.

A similar concern was raised at the Rules Committee hearing by attorney Douglas Chan, who said he represented the Chinese American Voters Education Committee. Chan, who is also the managing partner of Chan, Doi, Marshall, and Leal LLP, a small downtown law firm that contracts with Pacific Gas and Electric Company, said that the ward map splits Chinese American voters into too many separate districts and therefore neutralizes Chinese American voting power.

But, as Sup. Matt Gonzalez and deputy city attorney Delventhal both explained at the Rules Committee hearing, MUD ward directors are chosen via an at-large vote. and voters can elect up to five directors, as long as those directors reside in different wards. So the racial and ethnic composition of the districts is not relevant.

Which side are they on?

We called all of the board members to see where they stand on the MUD ballot proposal — and the measure appears to be passing, with the necessary six votes. Sups. Gonzalez, Tom Ammiano, Jake McGoldrick, Mark Leno, Sophie Maxwell, and Aaron Peskin all told us they plan to vote to put the measure before the voters, though Peskin is researching other options. "While I continue to support MUD and intend to vote for the resolution, I am interested in solutions that are more immediate as well," Peskin said.

Sup. Chris Daly said that he is likely to vote for the measure, but he would not commit to it. "My intentions before today were to vote for it." he said. "Today Supervisor Sandoval raised questions about the lines. And I want to give him a listen. I support the MUD, and I'm going to move it forward."

Sandoval and Sup. Tony Hall told us they support the MUD idea but want to resolve their questions about the ward lines before staking out a final position.

Sup. Gavin Newsom and Sup. Leland Yee did not return our calls.

Nearly every supervisor — except for Yee and Newsom —pledged in writing to the Bay Guardian before they were elected that they would support the MUD.

Local MUD efforts were buoyed somewhat by state legislation introduced Jan. 30 by state senator Nell Soto (D-Ontario) that would make a MUD formation easier by letting communities form such districts without LAFCO approval. The MUD campaign could avoid legal challenges if Soto's bill passes.

Paul Van Dyke, legislative director for Soto, said his office had received complaints that the LAFCO review process often provides a forum for the private utility lobby to kill citizen-backed initiatives. "The utilities manipulate the process, and citizens don't really have fair access," Van Dyke told us. "The issue is, let the people vote on it." 💠

E-mail Rachel Brahinsky at rachel@sfbg.com.



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'Apartheid Then, **Apartheid Now'**

Thursday, Feb. 8, Students for Justice in Palestine kick off a divestment campaign aimed at the UC Regents and inspired by a similar drive in the 1980s against apartheid in South Africa. Find out more at a teach-in titled "Apartheid Then, Apartheid Now." 7 p.m., UC Berkeley, Valley Life Sciences bldg., Room 2040, Berk. Free. (510) 268-9006.

Organize for public power

Friday, Feb. 9, the Golden Gate Chapter of the Labor Party invites one and all to "The Electricity Crisis: Organizing for Public Power," a forum featuring Board of Supervisors president Tom Ammiano, Global Exchange director and former Green Party senatorial candidate Medea Benjamin, Labor Party organizer Tony Mazzocchi, former supervisor Angela Alioto, and others. 7 p.m., Centro del Pueblo, 474 Valencia, Second floor, S.F. \$5 donation. (415) 626-1175.

Communities of color and incarceration

Friday, Feb. 9-Saturday, Feb. 10, attend "Breaking the Cycle, Mending the Circle," a conference sponsored by UC Berkeley's Multicultural Center, the Student Kouncil on Indigenous Nations, and Movimiento Estudantil Chicana/o de Aztlan that will bring together youth, elders, activists, and community-based organizations to address factors that contribute to the disturbing incarceration trend. 9 a.m.-6 p.m., UC Berkeley, West Pauley Ballroom, Berk. Call ahead to register and for cost and schedule information. (510) 642-4270.

'Dis-Place-Meant for Us'

Saturday, Feb. 10, the League of Filipino Students and Movimiento Estudantíl Chicana/o de Aztlan host "Noche de Diwata" (a mixture of Tagalog and Spanish meaning "Evening of the Spirits"), with the theme of "Dis-Place-Meant for Us" — a night of entertainment and cultural exchange to address issues of gentrification and the displacement of people of color. 5:30-9:30 p.m., San Francisco State University, Jack Adams Hall, 1600 Holloway, S.F. Free. (415) 207-8547 or (510) 219-0087.

District Three town hall meeting

Saturday, Feb. 10, District Three residents are invited to discuss neighborhood issues at Sup. Aaron Peskin's first town hall meeting, which will include representatives from the police and fire departments, the Department of Public Works, Muni, the Recreation and Park Department, and the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services. 10 a.m.-noon, Jean Parker School, 840 Broadway, S.F. (415) 554-7453.

It's lights out for PG&E

Sunday, Feb. 11, if you're sick of corporate welfare and want to learn more about organizing drives to demand public power, attend a teach-in sponsored by the Bay Guardian and the Campaign for Public Power Now, Speakers include Bay Guardian executive editor Tim Redmond.

Board of Supervisors president Tom Ammiano, Global Exchange and Green Party spokesperson Medea Benjamin, PG&E worker and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1245 member Robin David, and the Utility Reform Network organizer Graham Brownstein. 3 p.m., San Francisco Women's Building, 3543 18th St., S.F. Free. (415) 789-8344.

Close the School of the Americas!

Tuesday, Feb. 13, School of the Americas Watch West holds a rally in honor of SOA Watch founder Friar Roy Bourgeois, who will speak about his recent trip to Colombia and the continuing struggle to close the infamous School of the Americas, where third world military

personnel are trained in counterinsurgency operations and torture techniques. Rally 4 p.m., University of San Francisco, Lone Mountain bldg., Pacific Rim room, 2600 Turk, S.F. Free. (415)

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Dying for oil

U'wa leader Roberto Pérez speaks about indigenous resistance to the Colombian oil rush.

eep beneath the cloud forests of Colombia's northeastern highlands lie 1.4 billion barrels of crude oil, and Occidental Oil is poised to make a killing off of it. But the path to profits goes through the home of the indigenous U'wa, who, led by Roberto Pérez, are mounting fierce resistance. The U'wa fear that oil development on their ancestral territory spells a death sentence for their culture and the land that sustains them. They say they would rather die quickly, in defense of the planet, than slowly on the streets of Colombia's urban centers. as has been the fate of other tribes that have ceded their land rights to the government. In keeping with a 300-yearold precedent in which a group of their ancestors jumped off a cliff rather than fall into the hands of Spanish missionaries and tax collectors, the U'wa have threatened mass suicide if oil drilling is allowed on their lands.

By launching their resistance in 1993, the U'wa incurred the wrath of the U.S.-backed Colombian armed forces, the third-largest recipient of U.S. military aid in the world. Before leaving office, President Bill Clinton raised the stakes with Plan Colombia, plowing \$862 million into the country (thanks in part to lobbying by Occidental vice president Lawrence Meriage), mostly for military equipment and infrastructure. The country, which sports the hemisphere's worst human rights record, is already plagued by well over a million internal refugees.

"In the news we've been hearing that Colombia will become another Vietnam," said Pérez, president of the High Council of the U'wa Traditional Authority, in a recent Bay Guardian interview. Pérez was in town to pay a surprise visit to Sanford C. Bernstein and Co.'s local branch office. The investment company succeeded Fidelity Investments last year as the largest stockholder in Occidental and is now the target of a divestment campaign spearheaded by Rainforest Action Network, Amazon Watch, and Project Underground.

Bay Guardian: What does so-called oil development in your lands signify in terms of the U'wa's economic and cultural sur-

Roberto Pérez: When we speak of our territory, we speak of our culture, our identity, because they're related to the land. Ours is a culture that has been passed on from generation to generation for thousands of years. We have our own laws. We have our own form of government. What we are demanding is respect, recognition of our culture and our identity. The government talks about development and says that we have placed ourselves in opposition to 40 million Colombians. They say that you can't oppose the exploitation of petroleum. It's a Western way of thinking and a politic of the government and the transnational corporations that they impose on us in our own territory, but the development they talk about won't benefit the campesinos, the public sectors. The only ones who will benefit are a few groups that hold economic power. All the resources that have been exploited have benefited them. If the Colombian people had benefited, we wouldn't see the social injustice that we're living in Colombia. The civil war in Colombia arose from that injustice.

BG: What role does oil play in the spiritualism and belief system of the U'wa?

RP: We believe that the oil is the blood of our mother Earth. It's the equilibrium of nature and the world. And lits exploitation] is an attempt against the spiritual base of our culture and against life itself — against the environment, against the flora and fauna, and against biodiversity. Oil development in the region won't only affect the U'wa but also the campesino sectors, because where they're exploring is high ground, where several large rivers begin that feed the Colombian watershed. It will also affect Venezuelan territory, since we share a border. We believe in preserving the environment because it doesn't belong to us nor to the government, and much less to multinational companies. We believe that the second invasion has arrived in the name of development. The only options that are left us now are violence, death, and destruction.

BG: They have already been exploiting oil in areas near your lands, and you've seen the environmental destruction it's caused. How is it that violence follows on the heels of oil development in the

RP: In 1986 they discovered oil in Caño Limón, in Arauca. Our Guajira brothers lost all their ancestral territory. Now they ask for handouts on the streets of the municipalities. Their homes were destroyed, their sanctuaries, and Lipa Lake, a source of fish that come down the Arauca river. Now it's all contaminated. Another case is that of our brothers Matilón Bari, in the department of Santander, at the foot of the mountains near our territory. They lost all their best agricultural lands, and they are no longer able to fish. Violence has followed those projects. In Arauca many indigenous and campesino leaders have been killed. The same has happened in Tibú, in northern Santander. The minister of the interior ordered oil exploration in the Samoré mountains in January [of last year], and it has already cost us the lives of several of our children. Three died and 11 disappeared in February. We blocked the highway so they couldn't access our territory. When they arrived to evict us, three children under six months old drowned in Cubujón River trying to escape the tear gas the riot police shot at us. And the oil development hadn't even begun yet. When there are encounters between the guerrillas and the army, we find ourselves in the middle of the line of fire.

BG: How do you see Plan Colombia affecting your struggle?

RP: Plan Colombia is a plan for violence. The Colombian government says its purpose is to eradicate coca production, but that's not the case. It is directed against the guerrillas and against the people. The money the United States is spending in Plan Colombia will go to protecting the international companies by purchasing arms, more sophisticated equipment, and to constructing military bases in the richest zones. And when they say they will eradicate the coca crops by aerial fumigation, they are contaminating the environment, the rivers, and the [agricultural] cultivations for consumption.

When you analyze the regions where they have chosen to apply those resources, their first priority is Putumayo, because it is rich in natural resources. Second is the Colombian Amazon; third, the northeastern forests where our territory is located; and fourth is the Pacific coast. Those are the strategic areas, and that is where they will construct military bases.

BG: I've read that leaders before you have been beaten and have received death threats. Have you also received these kinds of threats?

RP: Violence isn't just a matter of kidnappings and assassinations. There is such a thing as political violence directed by the government in the name of development. The threats begin when people — whether indigenous or not — begin to assert their rights. They have labeled us guerrillas, or they say we are subversives who the guerrillas have turned against oil development. And although we haven't received any direct threats yet, I think we will. We know the government is investigating those who are leading the resistance. They know who we are.

BG: Of course.

RP: We will not die on our knees but rather on our feet. We are willing to die in defense of our territory, because it is the only alternative left to us. We've spoken with other indigenous communities. It is imperative that we unite, because this is a problem that affects all of us. If it's not petroleum, it's timber or hydroelectric power. In cases in which indigenous communities have negotiated, they've been deceived and they've lost their best territories, their sacred lands, their places of origin. They've lost their rivers, which have been of central importance to their subsistence.



Voice of the people: Roberto Pérez speaks at a Dec. 12, 2000, protest in front of the Sanford C. Bernstein and Co. offices in San Francisco.

Those indigenous brothers made a mistake by negotiating, because the government never fulfills its promises. We convened with the government on two separate occasions, but while we were talking, they gave the companies the go-ahead to continue their oil exploration activities. So we had to withdraw from the negotiations.

BG: What have been some of your accomplishments in your struggle, both locally and internationally? What have been some of the obstacles?

RP: We can say that we've accomplished something: namely, the expansion of our reservation. This was done by legal resolution, in the Constitution. It expanded our territory by 220,000 hectares [849 square miles]. But only 40,000 [154 square miles] of those are for cultivation. The rest is an environmental reserve. But one month after delimiting those lands, the minister of the environment granted a license for oil exploration.

On the local level we've succeeded in creating an alliance with the campesinos, who have backed us not only in words but with actions. They've accompanied us in our blockades. That kind of solidarity is of great significance for the country as a whole. They recognize our autonomous identity, they recognize our rights to our territory, and they recognize the importance of the environment. [Working together] has served as a learning experience for both of us.

At the national level we've won some influence on the universities in Bogotá, in Cali, in Medellín, Bucarama, in the large cities. On the international level we've obtained many environmentalist friends, mostly here in the United States, although we also have a sizable influence in 14 countries in Europe. Now we're discussing organizing an international environmental convention in our territory that could attract media attention.

It isn't just our Colombian territory that's at risk. I attended a conference in Manila (in the Philippines) in which all the participants spoke of the problems they face in their respective countries with oil, gold, diamonds, wood — and these threaten the cultures that still exist. Resistance is the only alternative that we can continue to advance in the long run. When we attain more unity, I think we can do something for the world. So our message to people in the United States would be, first, to exert pressure from here to put a stop to Plan Colombia, and, two, to stop all U.S. military intervention in Colombian territory. Plan Colombia is a death sentence for us. *

E-mail Camille T. Taiara at camille@sfbg.com.



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Mountains of trouble

Golden dreams, poisoned streams in Peru. By Erica Etelson

AJAMARCA, PERU — In a remote corner of northern Peru, alongside the road leading to South America's second-largest gold mine, a decrepit sign is plunked down into the ground: "Minera Yanacocha takes care of the environment." It's bitter irony for 6,000 nearby campesinos, who struggle to feed and water their starving cattle, their crops, and themselves — that is, when they're not too busy doing everything in their power to shut the mine down.

Sunk deep into the northernmost stretch of the Peruvian Andes, the 97square-mile open pit mine blasts tons of rock from the mountainside and uses cyanide to leach the gold from the ore, permanently scarring the landscape. Last year alone, the mine excavated 62 million tons of earth to produce just 75 tons of gold. Choking clouds of pulverized rock blasted from the mountain blanket the air for hours every day.

But toxic dust plumes and a bruised terrain are the least of the campesinos' concerns. The massive Minera Yanacocha - a joint venture of Denver-based Newmont Mining, Minas Buenaventura of Peru, and the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the private lending arm of the World Bank — is turning this highland farm country into a lifeless desert. The campesino community's agricultural way of life has been ravaged by the mine's voracious appetite for water. The local water table has plummeted, and the mountain springs that feed nearby rivers and streams are drying up. In the quest for ore, mining operations dig so deep they hit groundwater, and must then "dewater" — pumping the ground-water out of the pit to get to the ore. Most of that water is lost to evaporation.

What little water is left is contaminated with arsenic, mercury, and other heavy metals, sediment, and toxic bacteria that flourish in highly acidic environments. According to water tests by government agencies and by the mine, Minera Yanacocha breached World Health Organization standards 159 times during a two-year period. Aluminum levels exceeded WHO standards by more than 20 times. Independent testing done by the Denver Post as part of a recent investigation of the mine corroborated these findings.

Minera Yanacocha claims that the water is naturally acidic, a contention sharply disputed by experts such as Nilton Deza, a University of Cajamarca environmental scientist who served on a special commission convened to evaluate water quality. Deza and two other academics resigned from the commission last August, citing concern that Minera Yanacocha was attempting to direct and unduly influence their findings.

Some of the evidence is visible right on the surface. During a recent visit, local campesino leaders provided a toxic tour of the area, situated outside the city of Cajamarca, some 375 miles north of Lima. Among the sights: dried-out streambeds, emaciated animals, displaced families, and children with bright red rashes covering their faces. At every turn, the tour guides showed another swath of vacant, arid land that used to be someone's farm, another contaminated stream that used to be home to trout and frogs, another lagoon drained by

The IFC's commitment to Minera Yanacocha is consistent with the World Bank's much criticized policy in favor of mining projects. While it admits that the concept of sustainable mining "may seem paradoxical" and that a mining project can result in an "unsightly and sometimes dangerous toxic legacy," the bank insists that an "enabling environment" for mineral exploitation in Latin America should be encouraged. In Peru, the "enabling environment" exists in the form of almost nonexistent regula-

tion of the mining sector and an endless supply of lowcost labor.

That enabling environment is aided by high-level **Ground wars**

The mine is snapping up farmland at an alarming rate, forcing lifelong farmers to scramble for odd jobs in Cajamarca. A handful of families, having seen the impact on their neighbors, know better than to believe the mine's promises and have resisted selling their land. In addition to making false assurances about maintaining the condition of the land, Minera Yanacocha typically promises employment in the mine, education stipends, and electricity hookups, none of which, as far as local activists know, has materialized. For the more skeptical landowners, the mine threatens forced eviction and police harassment. According to local community estimates, Minera Yanacocha has displaced upwards of 2,500 campesinos.

Susana Cruzado's father sold his 124acre farm to the mine for the equivalent of \$1,430. The mine promised to let him keep farming the land until they struck gold and assured him he would get all his land back in its original condition. Now, Cruzado's father and mothmine. In the past two years, the Rondas Campesinas has organized demonstrations and marches of thousands of campesinos demanding immediate closure of the mine. Last January 8,000 people participated in a peaceful protest against the mine. Police attacked the protesters and arrested 32 of them on terrorism charges.

The organizing is beginning to pay off. In November of last year the city of Cajamarca passed an ordinance prohibiting Minera Yanacocha from mining Cerro Quilish, a mountain next to the existing mine, based on concern that expansion into this mountain would contaminate groundwater serving the municipality.

In collaboration with the Rondas Campesinas, Project Underground has documented the environmental and social impact of the mine and presented their findings to the IFC in a series of reports. In June 1999 Castrejon and Julio Marin, another Rondas leader, met with IFC officials in Washington, D.C. They gave the IFC a detailed account of minerelated environmental and social prob-



pounds of mercury spilled from an open flatbed truck transporting the mercury from the mine to Lima for sale to industrial purchasers. Mercury, a byproduct of gold processing, is extremely toxic, and hundreds of people who came into contact with the mercury were sickened. Eight days passed before Minera Yanacocha began cleaning up mercury from

Rather than taking immediate action to clean up the spill and provide emergency medical care, Minera Yanacocha instead focused its efforts on blaming the spill on the truck driver and downplaying the effects of mercury on human health. To top it off, Minera Yanacocha pressured dozens of spill victims into accepting quick cash settlements of U.S. \$2,000 or less and giving up their right

An independent commission of the IFC investigated the spill in July. The commission determined that Minera Yanacocha's failure to use a closed truck and improper loading and strapping of the mercury flasks were direct causes of the spill. The commission also faulted Minera Yanacocha's failure to provide adequate or timely information to the public or to local or national authorities.

Enabling destruction

In a country with a crushing \$30.5 billion debt, in which metals comprise 50 percent of exports, it is not surprising that Fujimori-era government officials have prioritized investment in the newly privatized mining sector over human rights and the environment. Flush with cash from Newmont and the IFC, Minera Yanacocha is in a constant state of expansion.



Resistance and subsistence: Campesinos marched against the mine in Cajamarca in September 1999 (left); Antero Julón and Susana Cruzado and extended family crowded together on a tiny farm after the mine cheated Cruzado's father out of land.

arm twisting. A secret video released recently shows Peru's former spy chief Vladimiro Montesinos bribing Peruvian government officials. In one clip, Montesinos is seen pressuring a Supreme Court judge to rule in favor of Newmont in its dispute with a French mining company concerning the title to a portion of the Minera Yanacocha mine. According to news accounts in Peru, Montesinos told the judge that the U.S. undersecretary of state for Latin America was interested in seeing the case resolved in Newmont's favor. The U.S. ambassador to Peru and the Department of State spokesperson respectively confirmed and denied this report. Newmont admitted discussing the case with the State Department but denied any wrongdoing. With Montesinos still a fugitive, the truth about the United States' role may never be known. But the incident punctuates a point well understood by antimining activists: Newmont has friends in high places.

er squeeze in with her and her husband on their 62-acre farm - not nearly enough to support the extended family. So Cruzado's husband, Antero Julón, does odd jobs in town, when he can find them, to supplement their income. Meanwhile, facing severe water shortages, the cramped family farm barely produces enough potatoes and barley to make farming worthwhile.

Until recently the poor, mostly illiterate campesinos have waged a lonely struggle to force the mine to close. Segunda Castrejon is trying to change all that. Castrejon is president of the Federación de las Rondas Campesinas Femininas of northern Peru, a constitutionally recognized nongovernmental organization that promotes women's rights and indigenous culture. The group extends micro-credit loans to local campesinos, administers "campesino justice," and, since Minera Yanacocha came to town in 1993, vigorously opposes the lems in their community. Although the IFC professes concern, it has taken no steps to resolve any of the people's complaints and has agreed to organize another \$100 million in financing for a substantial expansion of the mine.

Still, the Rondas Campesinas is pressing forward with its complaint to the IFC's compliance advisor ombudsman, a position established last year in response to growing criticism of the IFC's lack of accountability to the communities impacted by IFC-financed projects. In the meantime, the activists continue educating and organizing the community to resist land sales and to demand closure of the mine as the only means of recovering its most precious resource: water. As Castrejon explains, "Water is life, and life is not for sale." ❖

Erica Etelson is the legal coordinator for Project Underground in Berkeley and a member of the National Lawyers Guild.

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here's a central building at the condo complex where I live. It's the place where residents pick up packages and where film screenings, classes, and Superbowl parties happen. Although every resident needs access to this building, a wheelchair ramp was installed there only just last month. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) - a federal law that prohibits discrimination and ensures equal opportunity for persons with disabilities in employment, state and local government services, public accommodations, commercial facilities, and transportation — went into effect over 10 years ago. Yet it took a lawsuit by one individual homeowner before the building association put in the ramp.

This past summer, celebrations of the ADA's 10th anniversary took place in cities all over the country; here, the ADA torch was carried across the bay from San Francisco to Oakland by the Bay Area Association of Disabled Sailors. Mayor Jerry Brown handed the torch to Debra Kaplan, director of the World Institute on Disability, who relayed it to a lineup of people of all ages, sizes, colors, and abilities. Each person briefly held the torch, while in the background the Olympian theme music played and onlookers cheered. It was, as Lily Tomlin would say, a "goosebump experience."

Torchbearer Victor Aguilar, born with cerebral palsy one year after the ADA went into effect, was excited to be part of the relay, but he added, "Why should I celebrate if I'm excluded wherever 1 go?" His mother echoed the sentiment, pointing out that inaccessibility is still far too often the case — in the notoriously inaccessible Oakland schools, for instance, and even at the YMCA.

Vast numbers of public and private facilities throughout the country remain inaccessible to people with disabilities. And though wheelchair access is the most visible and pervasive issue for the disabled community, it is not the only problem. More than two-thirds of disabled people who are willing and able to work are unemployed. Twenty-five percent of disabled people and their families live in poverty. And many philanthropic organizations, such as the Ford Foundation, do not, as a matter of policy, fund disability groups.

It's a truism that social attitudes lag behind legislation; the latter eventually spurs change in the collective consciousness. In my lifetime I've seen the visibility of people with disabilities increase dramatically, due largely to changes in the law, followed by scattershot social changes. What able-bodied folks still need is to become more accustomed to seeing and interacting with people who have disabilities. Now a new generation of disabled activists, educators, and artists in the Bay Area are making it harder than ever to ignore the disabled community.

Becoming visible

Until quite recently, people born with physical or mental deviations from the norm were viewed as shameful, even sinful. They were frequently locked up in mental asylums and other institutions, or kept hidden in the family attic. Nothing I say here is an exaggeration; throughout history, the lives of people with disabilities have been nightmarish. Think of any social issue and then inject

Disability culture

The good, the bad, and the ugly. By Marcy Sheiner

disability into the picture: white slaveowners routinely murdered disabled African American babies; the Nazis refined the techniques they later used in the Holocaust by first experimenting on institutionalized people with disabilities - with full cooperation from the German medical community.

Such abuse is, unfortunately, not entirely in the past. Compulsory sterilization of people with disabilities was outlawed in the United States in the 1950s but is still practiced in Austria and in some parts of Switzerland, Not too many years ago a deaf man in Alabama was shot dead by a man who became alarmed by his unfamiliar hand gestures. In Minnesota, a counselor at an institution for the mentally retarded doused a resident's genitals with industrial cleanser because he found the man "annoying."

But these days the disabled are just as likely to find themselves on the receiving end of a marketing campaign as they are to find themselves being abused. Publications aimed at the disabled, like WE and Ability, include articles on fashion. accessible restaurants, hotels, and theme parks, disabled sports figures, and book and film reviews. Disability studies, an academic field covering history, civil rights, and other relevant issues, is popping up on some college campuses. Such a program has even been developed for middle school classes in Berkeley

These magazines and scholarly pursuits aren't always altruistic endeavors: corporate America has discovered a lucrative target market, one that can only increase as the baby boomers age. The growing number of disabled people and the improved products available to them translate into advertising dollars. Thus, these magazines contain ads for sleek new wheelchairs and other specialized products, but they also carry advertising for investment brokers, travel agents, and SUVs. Perhaps most significant, a

recent issue of the New Yorker carried an ad for New Halls Wheels featuring Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who was rarely photographed in his chair while in office, sitting in one with a dog.

Just as it's no longer appropriate to tell racist jokes, certain words - like "retard" - are no longer publicly acceptable. And yet, on a personal level, most "temporarily able-bodied" folks rarely, if ever, mingle with disabled people. Let's be honest: it's no mean feat to talk to someone with cerebral palsy who appears to be in pain (they're not), whose limbs and head flop around, and whose slow speech is difficult to decipher. Unfortunately, most people don't see any reason to break through their own limitations and communicate with people

Cheryl Wade, a disabled activist and performance artist, says, "We live in an extremely shallow society in which the thin and hard is revered. But we are weird and flabby and drooly and spazzy. If we embrace our strangeness, we have something to offer, but not if we downplay it."

Disability culture

Wade most certainly does not downplay her own "strangeness." A poet and performance artist who's lived most of her life with rheumatoid arthritis, she's the starring actor in "Disability Culture Rap," a video that won first prize in last year's Superfest, an annual festival of films by and about people with disabilities. "I want my art to be so powerful," says Wade, "that someone who doesn't give a damn about disability comes to see me because I'm good and goes away with a new consciousness about disabled people."

In fact, it's here in the arena of arts and culture that you'll find the cutting edge of the disability rights movement. People with disabilities have always been used for entertainment — but in

the not-too-distant past they were exploited as sideshow "freaks." Nowadays performance artists, painters, writers, photographers, and filmmakers are producing work about the disabled life that isn't presented for shock value but is often startling.

Take David Roche, who calls himself 'Reverend of the Church of 80 Percent Sincerity." As a result of treatment for childhood cancer, one side of Roche's face is striated with dark purple burn marks, his chin is crooked, his teeth have fallen out, and his mouth is only half there. Rather than hide in shame, Roche has made his face the centerpiece of a comedy routine that's propelled him into places as high up as the White House. One of his projects is an annual appearance at a junior high school, where kids learn that it's not a disaster to look "different."

Neil Marcus, who's had dystonia since the age of eight, scored an acting part on television's ER a few years ago, playing a genius with cerebral palsy who is assumed by the staff to be homeless and inarticulate. "As little as 10 years ago," he says, "they would have hired a nondisabled actor who would act disabled." Marcus was "discovered" by ER's Anthony Edwards while performing his show Storm Reading under the auspices of Access Theater, which produces plays by and about people with disabilities and on whose board Edwards served. "It satisfies something in my rebellious nature," Marcus says, "to be seen acting in this spastic body.

Another disabled artist is Ricardo Gil, a photographer who's been documenting the life of his family. He and his wife are both dwarfs who have a normal-size daughter. His work has been exhibited, along with that of other disabled artists, by Integrated Arts, a Berkeley organization. IA is currently coordinating a mural made up of 500 tiles, each produced by a person with a disability,

Resources for the disabled

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Center for an Accessible Society 2980 Beech St., San Diego, CA 92102; (619) 232-2727, www.accessiblesociety.org Center for Independent Living 2539 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, CA 94704; (510) 841-4776

Crisis Line for the Handicapped 1-800-426-4263 Disability Media Project P.O. Box 22115, San Francisco, CA 94122; (415) 387-0583; www.dmedia.org

Family Resource Network 5232 Claremont Ave., Oakland, CA 94618; (510) 543-7322, TDD (510) 658-2307

Hydrocephalus Association 870 Market, San Francisco, CA 94102: (415) 732-7040 Independent Living Resource Center 649 Mission St.,

San Francisco, CA 94105; (415) 543-6222, ilrcsf@earthlink Mayor's Commission on Disabled Persons (Oakland)

(510) 532-9696

National Transition Network Institute on Community Integration, Pattee Hall, University of Minnesota, 150 Pillsbury Dr. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455; (612) 626-8200

President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities 1331 F St. NW, No. 300, Washington, DC 20004; (202) 376-6200, www.pcepd.gov

Progressive Research and Training for Action 2809 Telegraph Ave., Suite 208, Berkeley, CA 94705; phone (510) 705-8918, fax (510) 705-8922, www.prta.com San Francisco Human Rights Commission (415) 252-2510 World Institute on Disability 510 16th St., Suite 100, Oakland, CA 94612; (510) 763-4100

Deaf Media Inc. 2600 10th St., Berkeley, CA 94710; (510) 841-0163, TDD (510) 841-0165 Integrated Arts 933 Parker St., No. 45, Berkeley, CA 94710;

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Books and publications

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Ragged Edge magazine Box 145, Louisville, KY 40201; (502) 894-9494, EdgeMag@aol.com, www.ragged-edge-mag.com Special Needs Project (books on disability) 1-800-333-6865

Continued on page 24

which will be installed at the in-progress Ed Roberts Campus in Berkeley.

This handful of artists represents only a tiny part of the growing disability culture. Dance troupes, acting companies, traveling exhibitions, anthologies, and books that finally tell the truth about disability have sprung up all over the place. Although Superfest began over 30 years ago, back then the films it showcased tended to be produced by "experts" rather than by the disabled themselves and revolved around such subjects as how to tie your shoes. The 2000 festival, by contrast, included films that dealt with disabled runaway teens and family conflicts, as well as a documentary about the movement to get names and dates put onto unmarked graves of people who have died in institutions.

Superman in a wheelchair

One sure way to humanize disabled people in the public mind is to find a charismatic celebrity who will represent them. Just as Rock Hudson raised AIDS awareness to a whole new level, when Christopher Reeve became paralyzed as a result of a riding accident, public awareness about disability issues was heightened. Reeve has done an incredible service to the community by speaking honestly about his condition and funding research into spinal cord injuries. Some disabled people, however, think it's damaging for Reeve to focus on finding a cure rather than accepting the validity of life in a wheelchair.

Nonetheless, Reeve has demonstrated that people can and do live rich, satisfying lives despite mobility impairments. The entertainment industry, of course, still lags behind in portraying such lives: ER's Dr. Kerry Weaver, who uses a crutch that is seldom referred to on the show, is a notable exception. Advocates say the 54 million Americans with disabilities remain television's "invisible minority" - they're not even included in the networks' diversity initiatives of the past year, which covered only ethnic minorities.

Technology's impact

Assistive technology has revolutionized the way people with disabilities communicate, get around, and express themselves. Immobilized artists paint by voice; likewise for writers. The Internet has spawned a vast network of Web sites, chat groups, and listservs where disabled people communicate with one another, obtain information, and organize for civil rights. The everyday lives of ordinary people with disabilities have been improved by technology, which is often subsidized and thus available even to low-income people.

But technology has also created ethical dilemmas for people with disabilities. Early detection of abnormalities in utero means more terminated pregnancies, a rarely discussed aspect of the abortion issue: even some antiabortion people are silent about it. According to Gallup polls, a majority of Americans say abortion should be legal when there's evidence that the fetus is mentally or physically impaired. I know a woman whose son has spina bifida and who was visited by a pregnant woman who'd just discovered her child would be born with the same condition. After spending a few hours with my friend and her son - a very hip, high-functioning teenager who zips around in his wheelchair - she decided to have an abortion, a decision that devastated my friend.

Wheelchair-accessible public transportation has also improved tremendously in the past two decades, due in part to the efforts of ADAPT (which previously stood for Americans Disabled for Accessible Public Transit). During the early '80s, ADAPT took to the streets and blocked buses in cities across the United States to demonstrate the need for access to public transit. Many went to jail for the right to ride.

Once accessible public transportation became a reality, ADAPT shifted its focus and name, becoming Americans Disabled for Attendant Programs Today, which works to keep people out of nursing homes and other institutions. ADAPT tries to divert funds earmarked for institutionalization into home attendant care. The group is behind the Medicaid Community Attendant Services and Supports Act (MiCASSA) introduced to Congress in November 1999.

Berkeley: a mecca

Many disability rights campaigns originate in the Bay Area, and for many disabled people, Berkeley is a kind of mecca. The notoriously activist city has long been a haven for people trying to create a viable disability culture. By all accounts, a pivotal figure in the disability rights movement was the late Ed Roberts, who registered at UC Berkeley in 1967. Because he required use of an iron lung for many hours a day, Roberts was housed on an empty third-floor wing of the university's Cowell Hospital. Word got out about his unique arrangements, and soon a dozen students in wheelchairs were living in the hospital and attending classes.

The Rolling Quads, as they called themselves, demanded access to buildings and classrooms, set up a wheelchair repair shop on campus, lobbied the Berkeley City Council for curb cuts, and founded the Center for Independent Living, the first agency to treat disability as a civil rights issue. CIL was to become the prototype for other agencies around the country, and Ed Roberts was eventually named by then-governor Jerry Brown as director of the California Reha-

bilitation Department. People with disabilities flock to Berkeley. Wade came to attend college in 1977; in her onewoman show, Sassy Girl, she describes the ecstasy of rolling down Telegraph Avenue for the first time and becoming so overwhelmed that she had a fullblown panic attack. She was rescued by an orange-haired, Stetson-hatted woman in a purple wheelchair who handed her a joint and said, "Welcome to the community of crippled women with attitude."

Backlash

You wouldn't think that Americans would be so mean-spirited as to object to improving the lives of people with disabilities, but there's actually been a backlash, particularly toward special education. TV news programs have repeatedly highlighted the "special attention" given to disabled students, slanting their stories to make it look as if nondisabled students suffer at their expense. One stereotype, for instance, is the disabled student who's somehow finagled private jet service, while her classmates have no textbooks. Antidisability pundits also paint dire portraits of classes where disabled students receive extraordinary one-on-one tutoring while the classroom next door teems with neglected kids. These kinds of images are like the fabled "welfare queens" that the Reagan administration used to "prove" that welfare programs encourage women to have children out of wedlock.

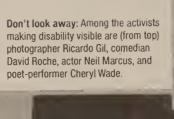
If "disabled queens" actually exist, they're the exception: ask any parent of a student with a disability. Too often, "special education" means throwing the learning disabled, the wheelchair users, and the retarded kids into a room for one period a day where one overworked teacher roams around helping them with their homework

Why the backlash, then? Cheryl Wade says it comes down to personal attitudes. "We're still in the stranglehold of the medical model. We're not seen as people with rights but as people with needs."

The ongoing legal battle

Activists have turned to the courtroom to fight for the rights of people with disabilities. Disability Rights Advocates in Oakland was founded by

Sid Wolinsky in 1993; the firm employs 10 lawyers and has a sister office in Hungary. DRA filed several lawsuits against the Oakland School District before finally reaching a settlement a year and a half ago. A plan is now in place to make all the schools in the district accessible. Other school districts sued









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activism

Disability

responded not only by improving access, but also by implementing staff sensitivity trainings and providing augmented communications systems for those who need them.

In May of this year DRA will go to trial with a class action suit filed against San Francisco State University by over 300 students and staff with mobility and vision disabilities. According to Wolinsky, SFSU is one of the least accessible universities in the country, with pervasive physical barriers to entrances, classrooms, and pathways. DRA is also gearing up for a lawsuit against California schools regarding standardized testing, which hurts people with learning disabilities.

In Sacramento, DRA is suing the city for inadequate curb cuts, and nationally they're suing United Parcel Service for its failure to accommodate deaf employees. A successful lawsuit against Macy's spawned more suits against retailers, including Mervyn's and JC Penney. DRA also successfully sued Kaiser Permanente for not providing quality medical care for people with disabilities, and the firm is developing a handbook and trainings for people with disabilities regarding health care rights.

The future

With a conservative administration in power in the White House, there's reason to fear that some of the gains made by the disability rights movement will be reversed. Wade is not so worried: although President Bush's support for privatized Social Security is scary, she doesn't see it getting past a divided Congress. "We won't see significant change,"



The good fight: Lawyer Sid Wolinsky founded Disability Rights Advocates.

she predicts. "I don't see any progress happening, like implementing legislation. I expect the status quo will just creep along for the next four years. Conservatives believe in pulling yourself up by your bootstraps. Well, you can't pull yourself up by your bootstraps if you don't have feet."

Whatever happens in electoral politics, the fact is that the disabled population is living longer, and the grassroots movement will continue to grow. Wade envisions a day - not in her own lifetime, but someday - when people with disabilities will no longer feel ashamed of their condition. "Older people with disabilities have to help younger ones feel pride," she says. "Pride means accepting your life - not that pain or disability is good, but that it's not shameful. It's just another kind of life experience. That schools are no longer segregated is a big deal, and we haven't seen the fruit of that yet. These days kids have snazzy wheelchairs, sports, art, leaders - they'll feel different than I did growing up." *

Resources

Disability Rights Advocates 1909 Harrison St., No. 2020, Oakland, CA 94612; (510) 273-8644

Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund 2212 Sixth St., Berkeley, CA 94704; (510) 644-2555

Technology

Center for Accessible Technology 2525 Eighth St., Berkeley, CA 94710; (510) 841-3224 Corporation on Disabilities and Telecommunication P.O. Box 1107, Berkeley, CA 94701; (510) 845-5576, cdtinfo@aol.com

Foundation for Technological Access 2173 East Francisco Blvd., Suite L, San Rafael, CA 94901; (415) 555-4575

Web sites www.adapt.org

www.cando.com www.wemedia.com

Ala-Costa Center for the Developmentally Disabled 1300 Rose St., Berkeley, CA 94702; (510) 527-2550

Alta Bates Tele-Care (daily phone service) 2850 Telegraph, Berkeley, CA 94705;

Bay Area Outreach Recreation 830 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, CA 94710; (510) 849-4663 Berkeley High School Workability 2246 Milvia St., Berkeley, CA 94704; (510) 644-4583

Berkeley Public Library Services to People with Disabilities 2090 Kittredge St., Berkeley, CA 94704; (510) 644-1600

Disability Statistics Project (415) 502-5210

Easy Does It (attendant services) 1732 University Ave., Berkeley, CA 94703; (510) 845-5513, edi@easyland.org

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techsploitation

Core memory

fter driving with an escort past armed guards, Jesse and I arrived at the Computer Museum History Center at Moffett Field in Mountain View. Despite the high-security measures (this was, after all, a former air force base), we were still expecting to find a typical museum with the usual alienating displays: tidy, labeled bits of tech under glass, "hands off" signs, and robotic arms behind velvet ropes.

Instead, we found a giant warehouse whose concrete floors were stocked with a mind-bendingly huge collection of computing machines, arcane devices, and incomprehensible widgets. An unassuming little bundle of wires nestled inside what looked like a coffee table turned out to be the computer that had controlled the

These were

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days, machines

Minuteman missile. Something that looked like a 1970s sofa was actually a Cray computer. Next to it, humbly arranged on the floor, was an SGI machine the size of an outdoor barbecue pit. Somebody had put a Post-it note on it that read, "This computer works put in a disk and it boots up!"

To our right was a wall of burned-out wires and vacuum tubes housed in a curved, art deco frame with six-foot-tall sliding glass doors. It had no label, no discernible function. Like so much of what we saw in the computer museum, it was a raw, undigested chunk of a historical tradition we've barely begun to chronicle.

We joined a group of oddly dressed Germans on a short tour with museum docent Chris Garcia, on whom I immediately de-

veloped a mad crush. It's hard for me to watch a sarcastic young man explaining the technical specs on mainframes without getting a little worked up. So sue me.

And O, the mainframes! The mainframes! We could touch them, open them, wiggle their switches, even taste them, if we were techno-kinky enough and hid from the tour guide long enough (note to museum staff: no, I did not actually taste the DEC 10).

I had of course seen pictures of VAXes and PDPs. They were usually taken from old 1960s-era textbooks, and often included a handful of male humans wearing black horn-rimmed glasses and white lab coats, whose bodies looked like oddly shaped peripherals for the walls of blinking lights and switches to which they were attached. But standing next to a mainframe that's spitting punch tape is nothing like seeing them in books.

Soon we got to the PC area of the museum, complete with an Apple I, its chip board bolted to a piece of wood. It was surrounded by Xerox Altos (the legendary computers developed in the early '70s at Xerox PARC, which supposedly inspired Steve Jobs to drop acid and dream of GUIs), an Atari 600, a Commodore 64, and an Apple II. These were the computers from my early days as a hacker wanna-be, machines on which I had heaped years of adolescent desires. Although in my memory the Apple II will always look like a Porsche, these crud-colored boxes with their cloudy screens reminded me that the mid '80s are practically medieval now.

While the museum houses hundreds of machines and computer-related ephemera from the past 100 years, very few people actually come to visit. Partly that's a result of the intimidating wall of security one has to endure (this, I am assured, will no longer be the case in a few months). Also, I think, it's because people don't realize how much the history of computing is relevant to understanding the development of our contemporary culture and everyday life.

After our tour was over, I imposed on the winsome Chris to tell Jesse and me a little bit more about the machines. We all ended up having a long conversation with museum volunteer Lee Courtney about core memory, the first widely used form of random access memory and forerunner of today's silicon-based memory chips. Lee and Chris showed us some of the earliest core memory, huge postersize sheets of wires coiled tightly together in webs where three square inches might hold 12 bytes. Then we moved on to drum memory and finally wandered over to a cylindrical device where memory had once been stored in mercury.

As we drove home, I kept thinking about core memory and how so much of what we do in the "information economy" depends on what grew out of those tiny electromagnetic wires that not so long ago lit up the faces of mainframes. Now it's up to us to preserve the memories of those machines and the people who worked on them. For all their seeming invulnerability, computers are dying faster than we are. 🍪

Annalee Newitz (core@techsploitation.com) is a surly media nerd who remembers playing Oregon Trail on the Apple at Deerfield Elementary School in 1978.



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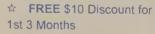
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ask isadora by isadora

Our ongoing conversation

Isadora, I was disappointed with your advice to the 23-year-old who seemed to be seeking encouragement to come out of the closet. His statement that "all [his] friends are homophobic" certainly should have elicited a reply such as "Some friends! Don't live your life for them!" I'd also like to tell you that, although I have no scientific credentials on the topic of sexuality, I know enough to say that by the age of 23, one certainly knows what one is sexually. That issue is almost always resolved by then. The issue is not confusion but coming out. From my point of view, that issue is not a sexual one, nor a religious or philosophical one. It is a political une. Since approximately 90 percent of people are straight, and they have the security that comes from belonging to a majority, you are certainly nut guing to get letters from 23-year-old gay peuple worrying that they might be heterosexual, fretting about how to tell people. Please, Isadora, encutrage gay people tu come out, without apologies to their so-called friends.

Know what? You're wrong. While many people, even maybe most, are sure of their sexual orientation by age 23, some people are still struggling for clarity long after that age. Believe it or not, 1 do get letters from gay-identified men and women who think they may have been too hasty in assuming that label. Yes, coming out is often a political statement, and one should certainly try to surround oneself with those who support one and how one identifies, but hang on to your judgments about how people are sexually. You still have much to learn ... as do we all, even those of us with scientific credentials. — Isadora

I have to admit being surprised and even a little bit offended by your response to the home care provider who hand releases to ejaculation some of her male clients who suffer from physical immobilities. The relationship seems to be consensual; both parties seem to reciprocate the pleasure. Given what those in the health care field have learned about the healing power of human touch, these isolated men may be literally dying to be touched. If she is indeed breaking the law, perhaps some legal guidance might be in order, rather than some petty moralizing.

Legal guidance you get from lawyers. Moral guidance, petty or otherwise, is what you get when you write an advice columnist. I received a great deal of mail on this subject, most waving the "but if it's consensual..." flag. I wish everyone had someone to fondle and be foudled by, that sex for money was not illegal, and that our society was not so touch-phobic and litigious. Things being what they are, however, it is not OK for someone in a position of power (doctor, teacher, therapist) to be sexual with his or her patients/students/enstomers no matter who gives consent. It is flat-out methical, and the woman in question could (and possibly should) lose her job and open herself to legal charges. I'll stand by my answer. If you are a health care worker and want to give sexual "relief" to your clientele, just be aware that you are skating on extremely thin ice, if any at all. — Isadora

Can I use your column to make a suggestion tu a problem I'm sure many couples experience? My husband has complained for years about not being sure what I want when we are intimate. I, on the other hand, hate spelling it out in detail. I have a strung libido, but there are times when I just want to cuddle. Once he came to accept that there are times when one wants intimacy without sex, I started a system that has put an end to any confusion, anger, or frustration. When I just want to cuddle, I go to bed naked. He keeps me plenty warm, so I no longer need to wear the flannel nightgown that kept him on his side of the bed, and we enjoy the skin-to-skin contact. When I do want sex, I wear something seductive to bed. We haven't had a bad lovemaking experience since.

So many people in long-lived couples have trouble sending and receiving "I am interested in sex" signals (and are not even aware that they do) that it's one of the first questions I ask of couples who come to see me for sex counseling: How do you let your partner know you're interested? So, Reader, take a test. How does (or did, if you don't have one now) your long-term partner let you know sex is on the menn? How do you convey your interest? If your partner is around, ask those questions. Compare answers. Have a good discussion. Work out some unequivocal indications of sexual interest. Flapping raised skirts or unzipped flies accompanied by a loud "woo hoo!" may be clear, just not always appropriate. — Isadora. *

Isadora Alman is a licensed marriage counselor and a board-certified sexologist. You can reach her online at her Sexuality Forum (www.askisadora.com) or by writing to her care of the Bay Guardian, 520 Hampshire, S.F., CA 94110. Alas, she cannot answer questions individually.



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by diane goldberg

Horror show*

To prepare for my early January trip to Russia, I bought a Russian phrase book. Then I had multiple panic attacks while perusing that masterpiece of adventure-fantasy porn, the L.L. Bean catalog. I considered a high-tech wonder coat that guaranteed warmth down to 50 below and rejected the idea. After all, I watch 60 Minutes; I knew I was going to die in St. Petersburg, and who needs a new coat for that?

With the expert assistance of Language Studies Abroad (1-800-424-5522, from anywhere in the United States, Canada, or Mexico) I'd arranged a language-immersion program at Linden and Denz Language Center in St. Petersburg. The school serves about 400 foreigners a year, including members of the British foreign office, British Airways employees, and the staff of the International Red Cross, as well as 16-year-old students away from home for the first time and eager to taste the delights of freedom, vodka, and sex. Linden and Denz also teaches English to Russians, serving 800 local students yearly.

Linden and Denz accepts students at all levels. I was a sub-beginner. My Russian consisted of a few vague impressions gathered from Boris and Natasha of Bullwinkle and a few random words: borscht (which I don't eat, since I believe beets are a cosmic mistake), vodka (which I should stay away from), nyet (most useful when saying the phrase Nyet borscht if approached by a babushka armed with a bowl of the filthy stuff).

At London Gatwick I boarded an Aeroflot flight to St. Petersburg. The plane had a prisonlike ambience, what with its liberal use of the gray paint and metallic surfaces familiar to habitués of drunk tanks. The flight attendants did not serve wine and meals. They rationed them. I was begrudgingly given a half cup of paint thinner disguised as wine. Or maybe I misread my phrase book and requested "a small amount of turpentine, please."

The Russians on the flight drank duty-free booze straight from the bottle and wandered up and down the aisles chain-smoking. The flight attendants all resembled Stalin-era tractor pinup girls. Upon landing, the passengers clapped and the backs of the unoccupied seats fell forward.

Several disgruntled men in impressive uniforms snarled things I couldn't find in my phrase book. Unlike in Western Europe, where there's always an English speaker around, or in Eastern Europe, where a German speaker is usually in the vicinity, the guys in customs and immigration seemed relentlessly Russian-language only. I was grateful that Liden and Denz arranges for students to be met by an English speaker who will answer questions en route to the student's lodgings.

Russia is clearly not European. St. Petersburg is pimped by the travel press as the "Venice of the North" and by the trendoid press as "the next Prague." It's neither. It's an aging courtesan, an existential crisis with buildings, a re-creation of the economic inequities of prerevolutionary Russia with mobile-phoned businesspeople and mafia members forming the new aristos while working people crowd into three-room flats. It's a society where doctors make U.S. \$80 a month and hookers earn \$1,500, an absurdist play about despair staged with a background of baroque beauty, an endurance test. Its inhabitants want to be Western or want to preserve that which is Russian or simply want to drink beer on the metro at 6 a.m.

And they want to bowl. For some indecipherable reason, bowling is the hot new trend among nouveau riche Russians.

Every expat I met in St. Petersburg said the same thing. They'd been here nine years or 14 months or three weeks and still couldn't understand St. Petersburg.

I deduced ultimately that going to St. Petersburg on vacation is pointless, unless geographically induced manic depression is your idea of a good time. However, there are still some reasons to visit to St. Petersburg, including cheap vodka. To find Dostoyevsky's ghost, see the remnants of Romanov Russia and the splendor of the Hermitage and the Mariinsky Theater, and indulge in nightclubs where every sodomy law on the books of every Southern state is routinely broken are a few of those reasons. You can do some of those things as part of a tour group of blue-haired grannies — but I suspect the bus-tour crowd skips the nightclubs that advertise "indecent relaxation for decent people."

Another good reason to visit St. Petersburg is to change your perspective, to unveil the dark "mystery wrapped in an enigma" that those of us who grew up during the cold war knew as the forbidden expanse behind the iron curtain.

Marcia, whom I stayed with as part of Linden and Denz's homestay program, is aware that "many Westerners come here for an adventure. It's very strange to them. They think in terms of surviving it, like they have done something.

Whatever reason, or lack thereof, brings a traveler to St. Petersburg, it's pointless without some proficiency in the language. But how is that possible? Tune in next week to learn about Russian language, reality, culture, and blinis. 💠

*The all-purpose Russian affirmation — the word for OK, cool beans, well done, copacetic, groovy, or hunky-dory — sounds a lot like the English words "horror show."

Diane Goldberg is our temporary Russian correspondent. This is the first of a





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Aw, shucks

Oysters mean love, but how do they taste? Our panel reports. By Paul Reidinger

f there is a more concupiscent food, a food more evocative of Valentine's Day, than the oyster, I can't think of it. Certainly the phallic aspect of such edible cylinders as bananas, sausages, and zucchini has been widely noted, but there is something comic - and obvious - about their blunt protuberance, as there is about the male apparatus itself.

The oyster, on the other hand, is the real deal, the true mystery of sexuality, presented on a platter of crushed ice. Obviousness has its charms, but the oyster's mute unvieldingness gives the final intimacy, achieved through artful perseverance, a special frisson of sweetness. All the oyster's loveliness is revealed only at the end, after a proper shucking: the pearly iridescence of the shell's lining, the oyster itself glistening and lewd, waiting to

Shucking, it must be said, isn't necessarily as fun as it sounds. In fact, it can be downright tricky (though

pleasurably rich in innuendo) trying to locate the secret crevice into which one must plunge that special tool - the shucking knife. Frustration can ensue. The clear answer? Leave it to a restaurant! From acquiring oysters to handling them to shucking and serving them (on Valentine's or any other day), they know what they're doing.

That's what we did. In fact, we left it to one of the best oyster bars in town, the one at Zuni, to stage our recent oyster tasting. The restaurant, apart from its many other charms - including lots of glass and light, and well-coordinated service - trafficks heavily in oysters. Zuni receives shipments of a variety of fresh oysters every day from Tuesday through Saturday, and its two professional shuckers have more than a quartercentury's experience between them. Of the nearly 400 oysters the restaurant receives daily, all but a few dozen are sold by the time the doors close for the night.

That augurs well for freshness, and safety. Eating raw oysters, after all, does entail some gastrointestinal risk. But that risk is less than you might suppose. Oysters are alive and so not deteriorating - until they're shucked, and generally they're shucked just before serving. And the waters of the West Coast are cold enough to inhibit the growth of bacteria typically associated with oysters. They're so cold, in fact, that the kind of oyster most commonly grown and served in these parts, the so-called Pacific oyster (C. gigas, actually a native of Japan), cannot spawn in them.

Pacific oysters are cultured up and down the West Coast and arrive on Zuni's menu under a variety of names that pretty fairly represent their diverse character. Oysters, even of the same genus, so dramatically reflect different growing conditions, in fact, that our panel of five was left scattered all over the lot in trying to name a favorite. Of the six varieties of oysters we tasted — the Pacific oysters Fanny Bay (British Columbia), "Sweetwater" Hog Island (Tomales Bay), Marin Miyagi (Tomales Bay), and Quilcene (Washington State); the Kumamoto oyster (California); and the East Coast ovster, C. virginica (Narragansett Bay, Rhode Island) - all but two received at least one first-place vote, and three received last-place votes. The Narragansett and the Kumamoto received both firstand last-place votes.

Yet out of chaos, order — at least some order. The group's definite favorite was the Marin Miyagi, which collected two firsts and three seconds. for an overall rating of 1.6 (the lower the better). Commentary on this entrant was almost uniformly favorable, from its "visually arresting" shell, layered with tones of black, mustard, and cream, to its feeling of "good heft" in the mouth, to a salty-sweet flavor in which several panelists detected fruit ("almost like a fruit cocktail in vinaigrette") and one a pronounced note of lettuce greens.

The Marin Miyagi's only real competitor was the Fanny Bay, which received a first- and a second- and two third-place votes, for an overall average of 2.6. One panelist was struck by the oyster's "pornographic" appearance, describing it as "the most vaginal-looking" of the lot. Although the oyster's cold-water origins in Canada were supposed to result in high saltiness (according to Zuni's documentation), our group made repeated reference to butter, and one to melon, in describing the Fanny Bay's flavor. Reactions to the oyster's texture varied, one panelist describing it as "lumpy but still tender," another as "a little stringy, but still smooth and juicy," and a third as "a perfect balance between butter and heft.'

The Kumamoto and Narragansett oysters found themselves in a dead heat at 3.8 — fittingly, since each received a first- and a last-place vote and quite a range in between. These were the only two non-Pacific oysters and were, respectively, the smallest and largest (each by a wide margin) of the group. Likers of the Kumamoto described it as having a "delicate and pearly" shell ("pale green, like a stormy sea," said one would-be poet) with a texture somewhere between "slippery" and gritty" and a "clean," "salty" flavor. The oyster's aftertaste was pronounced, striking one taster as "vinegary" and another as "slightly metallic." The naysayers were put off by the saltiness and the "unappealing" aftertaste, which for one "overwhelmed" the Kumamoto's "fabulous texture."

The Narragansett was by far the largest of the oysters in the group, and its creamy yellow color and "beefy" texture were distinctly reminiscent of a large mushroom - a porcino or portobello, say. The first-place voter liked the scale of the Narragansett ("size matters") and its "nice, earthy aftertaste." Another found the oyster "tempting in part because its size suggests one's oyster desires will be adequately filled." But a third found the Narragansett "spoiled and complacent," "a dowager oyster living off its imposing size."

The Sweetwater, from the wellknown Hog Island producer in west Marin, made a surprisingly mediocre showing at 4. The favorable commentary largely concerned the oyster's texture -- "it glides," "velvety - while, with respect to taste, panelists detected butter and cucumber and a fair amount of saltiness, with a "briny" aftertaste. One panelist found it to be "bland."

"Bland" popped up again to describe the Quilcene, the only oyster from Washington State and, with a rating of 5.2 and three last-place votes, the undisputed laggard. But commentary about the Quilcene suggests the extent to which the panel was conflicted about many of the oysters. A panelist who ranked the Ouilcene fourth out of six also noted that it was a "possible fave." Another voter for fourth place called it a "nice little nibble ... tiny, crispy, tangy ... with a hint of fruitiness.

But the last-placers were more severe, finding the Quilcene to be "a little fishy," "tasteless," "nondescript," "bland," "conformist," "not a risk taker." This oyster, said one panelist by way of summary, is "an accountant at a cocktail party who insists on telling you about mutual funds all night."

God forbid. That's a party you'd want to get away from — grabbing your sweetie and sweeping out the door to Zuni, say, or some other oyster haunt somewhere around town, where you could order up a wellshucked half-shell parade and slurp them down (with Tabasco? lemon? mignonette? nothing at all?) and wait for the oyster's fabled aphrodisiac effect to send you hurrying in search of the nearest bedroom, back seat, darkroom, dark alleyway, or anywhere else the ancient rituals of Valentine's Day are enacted. 🌣



Finger-lickin' good: Glistening and lewd, an oyster is taken by Zuni bartender



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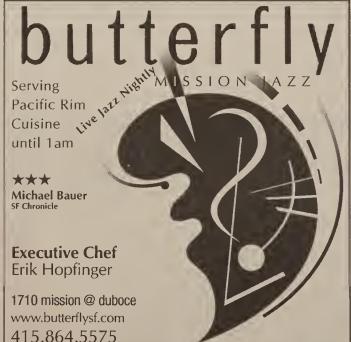




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The old lefty

appy birthday to all my friends who have been turning 40 like flies. I'm 37, 38 in May. An interesting thing is that I think I run faster than I used to. I know I can throw a baseball harder and farther now than at any other point in my pick-up baseball career. So the point I'd like to make to all you 40year-olds (and olders) is this: fuck softball; come out to the Presidio and play realball with us some Sunday.

What? You've never played? All the better! That means you still have some ligaments in your elbow, maybe even knees

We're conditioned by biblicalness to think of 40 as a lot a lot a lot. We're conditioned by sports fandom to believe that it all ends right there. After all, that's when

It's no secret

I can't eat like

Anyone who

ever watched

prime would

at the sight

of my table

last night.

me work in my

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professional athletes tend to have to hang it up: around about 40. But it's not their athleticism that goes, I'm here to tell you; it's their professionalism. Hell, I'll be playing baseball into my 70s, if I live that long. No one will be paying me to do it, and no one ever did, and that's why I'll still be playing.

Now, writing, on the other hand ... well, all the signs are there: It takes me a lot longer to kick something out now than when I was 20, and then afterwards I have to ice my head. And just as it takes longer to recover from a hard day's work, it also takes longer to warm up the next morning. I read the paper. I can't get loose. I need more and more coffee. I ramble longer and longer before getting to the point. There's no question I've lost a little something off of my metaphors. Three more years max, I figure, realistically, and I'm washed up, writingwise.

It's no secret I can't eat like I used to, but it's getting worse. Anyone who ever watched

me work in my prime would have teared up at the sight of my table last night, Hong Kong Restaurant on Church near Market. I took home about enough leftovers to feed the three of us again today.

It was me (37), my brother Phenomenon (35), and Orange Pop, our littlest and babyest little baby sister (26!!!!!). And it wasn't like we ordered that far over our heads. We ordered egg rolls, pot stickers, and fried chicken wings for appetizers, and then three more things: ginger beef, pepper chicken, and mixed vegetables with bean cake.

I never thought I'd see the day when someone set a plate of fried chicken wings in front of me and I went, "uh-oh," instead of "yodel-eh-hee-hoo." I mean there were eight of them, and they were huge. Huge! I don't know what I was expecting.

I know what I was expecting. I was expecting sticks with little pieces of chickens on them, because the menu said, "fried chicken wing sticks (8)." But the menu also said \$4.25, which is as much as many of the main courses at Hong Kong, so I should've known. And in any case, they were great.

So were the egg rolls (two for \$2.50). They were big and fat and just jampacked with fresh-tasting stuff like sprouts and cabbage and little tiny shrimps none of which was overcooked or oversogged with grease.

The pot stickers (\$3.50 for six) were vegetarian on account of Orange Pop being, gasp, damn-it, one of them. I ate one of them (pot stickers), but I'm not qualified to say what I thought of them, so I'll leave it to the vegetarian. Hold on a second.

Orange Pop: "They were good. I liked them."

That said, by the time we were done with our appetizers, we were pretty much satiated, if not exactly unhungry. Which may explain why everything else seemed to strike us as, oh, not bad, maybe a touch bland. The ginger beef (\$4.75) was good and gravied, with succulent plentitudes of meat, celery, and onions, for example, but the ginger consisted of two big giant pieces of ginger, all told. So it smelled like ginger more than it tasted like it, unless you happened to be biting into one of those two big giant pieces of ginger.

Similarly, the black bean sauce on the pepper chicken (\$4.95) was serviceable, but not great. I'm not qualified to comment on the one vegetarian dish we got, the mixed vegetables with bean cake (\$4.25), so, hold on a minute.

That said, I wholeheartedly and half-stomachedly recommend Hong Kong to you. The portions are huge, the prices are dirt cheap, the sing-songing waiterguyperson was excellent and amusing, and the atmosphere ... well, walls worn at chair-back level, for example. The chairs themselves getting tired; as we were leaving, the cook had one of them upside down on a table, working at it with a wrench. In other words: rockin'. 💠

Hong Kong Restaurant. 245 Church, S.F. (415) 621-3020. Mon.-Thurs., Sat., 11:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m.; Fri., 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Takeout available. MasterCard, Visa. Wheelchair accessible.



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<u>listings</u>

Eat here now

The Bay Guardian welcomes you to our dining section, a detailed list by neighborhood of some great places to grab a bite, hang out with friends, or impress the ones you love with thorough knowledge of this delectable city. These listings are compiled from previous restaurant reviews and Best of the Bay and Insider's Guide selections.

The skinny Restaurants are reviewed by Dan Leone (D.L.), Paul Reidinger (P.R.), Derk Richardson (D.R.), Stephanie Rosenbaum (S.R.), Eric Stephan (E.S.), Miriam Wolf (M.W.), or staff. All area codes are 415 and all restaurants are wheelchair accessible, except where noted.

Deciphering the codes Meals served are indicated by B (breakfast), BR (Saturday and/or Sunday brunch), L (lunch), and D (dinner); credit cards accepted are indicated by AE (American Express), DC (Diners Club), DISC (Discover), MC (MasterCard), and V (Visa).

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Valentine dining: romance

Biiru Biru adds a bit of hipster luster to the inner Richmond's restaurant row along Balboa. Excellent sushi with sly touches sprig of mint in a spider roll, say. A good soundtrack, too. Worth discovering. (P.R., 7/00) 446 Balboa (at Fifth Ave.), S.F. 933-7100. Japanese, D, \$, MC/V.

Clement St. Bar and Grill The high-backed booths spell romance at this always crowded spot. Grilled fish dishes snap with flavor, and there are always a couple of delicious-sounding vegetarian options. (Staff) 708 Clement (at Eighth Ave.), S.F. 386-2200. American, L/D, \$-\$\$, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V. American, 170, 5–35, AE/DC/DISC/MCV. Elisabeth Daniel combines, like a Swiss watch, elegance, precision, and beauty, and the result is one of the best restaurants in the city. The food is haute but limber the city. The food is natice but imber French, the interior design gracefully muted, the service of the highest order. Extremely pricey. (P.R., 3/00) 550 Washington (at Montgomery), S.F. 397-6129. French, L/D, \$\$\$, AE/MC/V.

Foreign Cinema really does show foreign cinema, and the effect, in a semi-outdoorsy patio under transparent pavilions, is power-fully romantic. The straightforward California cuisine is better than you'd expect. There's plenty of meat for carnivores; vegetarian dishes are a little thin. (P.R., 2/00) 2534 Mission (at 21st St.), S.F. 648-7600. California, D,\$\$, AE/MC/V. Sushi Groove South continues the westward

march of hipsterdom through SoMa. The food — traditional sushi augmented by quietly stylish fusion dishes — is spectacular. The setting — a candlelit grotto abrim with black-clad young — is charged with high romance. (P.R., 12/00) 1516 Folsom (at 11th), S.F. 503-1950. Japanese/sushi, L/D, \$, AE/

2223 could easily be a happening queer bar, what with all that male energy. But the American menu joins familiarity with high

style, and the ambience is that of a great party where you're bound to meet some-body hot. (P.R., 10/00) 2223 Market (at Noe), S.F. 431-0692. American, BR/D, \$\$, AE/DC/MC/V.

Zodiac Club numbers quite a few local chefs among its patrons, and that ought to tell you something about the quality of the eastern Mediterranean-influenced food. Lots of lamb, imaginatively handled, in a way-cool atmosphere of ultraviolet light. Another plus: not much price inflation. (P.R., 3/00) 718 14th St. (at Church), S.F. 626-7827. California, D, \$\$, MC/V

Downtown, Embarcadero Akiko's Restaurant and Sushi Bar is a

glimpse of heaven and hell for fish eaters. The raw stuff coming from the bar in the front is splendid. But cooked items from the adjoining kitchen are dubious, though the udon are quietly addictive. (P.R., 12/98) 431 Bush (at Kearny), S.F. 397-3218. Japanese, L/D, \$, AE/DISC/MC/V.

Anjou is the other restaurant on Campton Place — a lovely little warren of brick and brass serving an unpretentious, and some-times inventive, French bistro menu. (P.R. 11/98) 44 Campton Place (at Stockton), S.F. 392-5373. French, L/D, \$\$, AE/DC/DISC/

B44 brings Daniel Olivella's Catalan cooking to al fresco-friendly Belden Place. The salt cod-studded menu is stronger in first than main dishes. Frenchy desserts. (P.R., 3/00) 44 Belden Place (near Pine), S.F. 986-6287.

Catalan, L/D, \$\$, AE/MC/V.

Bix radiates an unmistakable aura of American power and luxury, Jazz Age style. The food is simply splendid, from such traditional dishes as chicken hash to Californiacuisine items such as crispy fillet of King salmon on a bed of heirloom cherry tomatoes and lemon crème fraiche. (P.R., 8/99) 56 Gold (at Sansome), S.F. 433-6300.

American, L/D, \$\$\$, AF/DC/D1SC/MC/V.

Boulevard This creation of hot chef Nancy

Oakes has a casually elegant art nouveau decor by designer Pat Kuleto. The food, too, is hot, including on one night a terrific grilled ahi tuna with a gingery salsa and shoestring potatoes. (Staff) 1 Mission (at Steuart), S.F. 543-6084. American, L/D, \$\$\$, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V.

Cafe Akimbo Tucked away in an alley off Union Square you'll find a tiny restaurant with some of the best cuisine in the neigh-borhood. Sautéed prawns were showered with pine nuts, tiny scraps of bacon, and basil and served with garlicky green beans worth fighting over. (Staff) 116 Maiden Lane (at Stockton), S.F. 433-2288. California, L/D, \$\$, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V. Café Claude This prototypical French café was voted "Best Place to Have a Clandestine tunch" (Readers' Poll, 1997). All the Gallic standards are in place, from bubbling crocks of onion soup to salade niçoise and croques both monsieur and madame. (S.R., 9/97) 7 Claude Lane (at Bush, between Kearny and Grant), S.F. 392-3505. French, L/D, \$, AE/ DC/DISC/MC/V.

Chaya Brasserie brings a taste of L.A.'s preen-and-be-seen culture to the water front. The Japanese-influenced French food is mostly French, and very expensive, while a handsome sushi bar tucked into a far corner offers great stuff at good value. (P.R., 4/00) 132 the Fmbarcadero (at Mission), S.F. 777-8688. Fusion, D., \$\$\$, AE/DC/MC/V. Cosmopolitan Cafe is certainly cosmopolitan but hardly a cafe. Its high arched ceiling and abundance of rich wood paneling make it seem like a huge Pullman car. The New American menu emphasizes heartiness, from a huge juicy pork chop with spätzle and roasted zinfandel onions to strips of rainbow trout served on a very substantial rock shrimp hash. A mixed-berry shortcake is a fine twist on an old dessert standard. (P.R., 9/00) 121 Spear (at Howard), S.F. 543-4001. American, L/D, \$\$, AE/DC/MC/V.

Cypress Club At the Cypress Club the much vaunted decor jumps out at you the minute you haul open the heavy doors. And in imagination, execution, and sheer over-the-topness, the menus more than match the decor. What the chef doesn't have, though, is restraint. Flavor piles up on flavor, without relief. (S.R., 12/97) 500 Jackson (at Montgomery), S.F. 296-8555, California, D, \$\$\$,

E&O Trading Company The finesse of E&O Trading Company's pan-Asian cuisine that so delighted early critics seems to have worn off under the pressure of feeding the multi-tudes spilling in after work and shopping. On paper the food sounds great, but on the plate E&O could use a little less spin and a lot more spice. (S.R., 11/97) 314 Sutter (at Grant), S.F. 693-9136. Pan-Asian, L/D, \$, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V.

Farallon Much has been made of Pat Kuleto's decor for this haute seafood palace, a kind of Jacques Cousteau-meets-the-Little Mermaid extravaganza. All the marine life that arrives at our table is flawless, chosen, cooked, and presented with meticulous care. My only quibble is with the overpowering sauces. (S.R., 2/98) 450 Post (at Mason), S.F. 956-6969. Seafood, L/D, \$\$\$, AE/DC/MC/V. Fifth Floor returns George Morrone to the city's restaurant scene in high style — literally. The restaurant, on the fifth floor of the Palomar Hotel, feels plushly art deco. The food hovers somewhere between hearty and lavish, ranging from roasted baby chicken with bay and fingerling potatoes to poached Maine lobster with white corn and vermouth essence. (P.R., 10/99) 12 Fourth St. (at Market), S.F. 348-1555. California, D,

First Crush goes the average wine bar one better: it's also got an excellent full-service restaurant in the basement — a stylish grotto done up in hues of grape and sun. The food marches from the kitchen like a well-trained brass band; the flavors are big and direct, to match all those California wines. (P.R., 4/99) 101 Cyril Magnin (at Ellis), S.F. 982-7874. California, D, \$\$, AE/DISC/MC/V. Fleur de Lys There's a definite midnight-at-

\$\$\$, AE/MC/V.

the-oasis feel to this sophisticated and very formal restaurant. For a sublime experience, order one of the multicourse prix fixe meals, available in both omnivorous and vegetarian styles. (Staff) 777 Sutter (at Taylor), S.F. 673-7779. French, D, \$\$\$, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V. Globe has been taken up with a vengeance by everyone from racehorse-skinny society ladies to local foodies, even the mayor. F shirted the impeccable bistro-style food — baked shrimp and scallops, rotisserie chicken — is worth the crush. Open for dinner till 1 a.m. (S.R., 8/97) 290 Pacific (at Bush), S.F. 391-4132. American, L/D, \$\$, AE/DC/MC/V. Gordon Biersch Head to this sprawling Fmbarcadero brew pub for a few pints of lager or Märzen along with some garlic fries or chicken satay, then stay on to watch the Bay Bridge light up while pensively chewing on one of the restaurant's wood-fired pizzas, like the sinfully rich wild mushroom, grilled leek, truffle oil, and fontina combination. (S.R., 5/98) 2 Harrison (at Spear), S.F. 243-8246. Brew pub, L/D, \$-\$\$, AE/DC/DISC/

Grand Cafe joins a spectacular setting and a French-California menu of understated elegance. The place could use a better name, but the food is every bit as good as at its more glamorous competition. It's the place to go for a quiet first-rate experience. (P.R. 4/99) 501 Geary (at Taylor), S.F. 292-0101. California, B/BR/L/D, \$\$\$, AF/MC/DS/

Kokkari is an upscale but authentic taverna — beamed ceilings, blazing fireplace, and that famously gesticulative Greek hospitality. Chef Jean Alberti's food alternates smoothly between classic dishes and California-Hellenic turns, such as grilled tuna with oregano pesto. (P.R., 5/99) 200 Jackson (at Front), S.F. 981-0983. Greek, L/D, \$\$\$, AE/

Kvo-Ya may not be the best lapanese restaurant in the city, but it's certainly one of them. Elegantly padded surroundings, sub-lime sushi, and a wide selection of cooked dishes attract an international mercantile class. Lovely all the same. Expensive too. (P.R., 11/99) 2 New Montgomery (at Mar-ket), S.F. 512-1111. Japanese, L/D, \$\$\$, AE/

MacArthur Park still occupies a gorgeous brick cavern in the Barbary Coast, but the restaurant these days is more a neighborhood spot than a destination, and the emphasis seems to be on takeout. The slabs of bahy back ribs are paradoxes of first-rate meat, anemic sauce, and overcooking. But the place is comfortable, and comfortably nostalgic. (P.R., 7/99) 607 Front (at Jackson), S.F. 781-5560. Barbecue, L/D, \$\$, AE/

MoMo's San Francisco Grill The new American food at MoMo's is surprisingly excellent (if it's been a while since you've had macaroni and cheese, have it here, with cubes of Black Forest ham), and the interior decoration is opulent, with prairie-style furniture, wood trim, dark-green carpeting, and dim-pled leather upholstery on the banquettes. (P.R., 11/98) 760 Second St. (at King), S.F. 227-8660. American, BR/L/D, \$\$, AE/MC/V. Paragon has left behind its sports-bar, fratty Marina incarnation to become, near the Giants' new ballpark, a stylish haven of gastronomic Americana. The food ranges from burgers to foie gras, touching lots of points ond St. (at King), S.F. 537-9020. American, L/D, \$\$, MC/V.

Pastis Gerald Hirigoyen's restaurant near Levi Strauss Plaza has the goofy charm of a modern art museum but, as at Fringale, his other spot, the menu gives light-handed re-finement to the lusty dishes of la France pro fonde. Hirogoyen, who's from Bayonne, in the French Basque country, also favors the occasional Basque touch, such as stuffed piquillo peppers. (P.R., 4/99) 1015 Battery (at Green), S.F. 391-2555. French, L/D, \$\$,

Plouf Mussels 10 ways — need we say more? Plouf knows its turf, and that's surf. All the seafood sparkles at this chic spot tucked away on pedestrians-only Belden Place, though mussels are a house specialty, impec fulls. Lots of outdoor seating reinforces the French-café feel. (S.R., 5/98) 40 Belden Place (at Bush), S.F. 986-6491. French, L/D, \$\$,

Ponzu opened early in 2000 but is likely to be remembered as one of the year's best new restaurants. Its menu ranges across south Asia with stylish agility — tangy Viet-namese carpaccio, Mongolian lamb loin, cilantro-charged monster noodles — at strikingly reasonable prices. The décor manages to be warm, bright, and modern without going over the top. (P.R., 2/00) 401 Taylor (at O'Farrell), S.F. 775-7979. Asian, B/D, \$\$, MC/V.

Postrio Wolfgang Puck's venerable outpost in the city still sparkles. Despite the drama of the setting, the food receives loving attention. Like an opera singer, the kitchen hits notes low and high with equal aplomb. Arty desserts. (P.R., 3/99) 545 Post (at Mason), S.F. 776-7825. California, B/BR/L/D, \$\$\$,

Puccini & Panetti practically shouts festivity: a bright, primary-colors decor (with an emphasis on yellow and blue), plenty of noise, and solidly rendered Italian-Ameri-can comfort food. Salads are especially nice — a caprese with red and gold tomatoes and soft discs of mozzarella, a spinach number with warm balsamic dressing — but the more heavy-duty items like veal pi cata and cannelloni with four cheeses hold up too. One exceptional dessert: a gelato chocolate sundae. (P.R., 8/00) 129 Ellis (at Cyril Magnin), S.F. 392-5500. Italian, L/D,

Red Herring brings yet another high-end seafood house to the reviving Embarcadero. The menu features plenty of playful brass - a whole snapper given the tandoori treatment — but there are subtle elements as well, such as a carpaccio of day-boat scallops topped with ahi-tartare-stuffed squid-ink pasta. Unbeatable bay and bridge views. (P.R., 8/99) 155 Steuart (at Howard), S.F. 495-6500. Seafood, L/D, \$\$\$, AE/MC/V.

Tadich Grill is the city's oldest restaurant (150 years and counting), and it still packs em in, specializing in seafood and most anything grilled. (Staff) 240 California (at Battery), S.F. 391-1849. Grill, L/D, \$\$, AE/

Tlaloc rises like a multistorey loft on its Financial District Lane, the better to accommodate the hordes of suits crowding in for a noontime burrito-and-salsa fix. They serve a mean pipián burrito, and decent fish tacos. (P.R., 10/00) 525 Commercial (at Sansome), 981-7800. Mexican, L/D, ¢, AE/MC/V. Tommy Toy's Haute Cuisine Chinois is a cross

between a steak house and The Last Emperor. Lots of red and gold, plenty of photos of the owner shaking hands with luphotos of the owner shaking halits with tu-minaries. The food is rich and fatty and only occasionally good. Vegetarians beware: You will struggle here. (P.R., 3/99) 655 Mont-gomery (at Washington), S.F. 397-4888. Chinese, L/D, \$\$\$, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V.

Town's End enjoys a reputation for a fabulous weekend brunch (getting in can be a trick), but the restaurant serves a polished California menu at dinner, too, when getting a table is a lot easier. The best items are sea sonal, of course, such as a late-summer salad sonat, or course, such as a fate-summer state of heirloom tomatoes, and the kitchen handles fish with real flair. (P.R., 11/98) 2
Townsend (at Embarcadero), S.F. 512-0749.
California, B/BR/L/D, \$\$, AE/DC/MC/V.

Tu Lan has few luxuries except the food, which is a luxury to the wealthiest palate. Raw foods converge in salads and stir-fries that'll leave you wondering why your own cooking doesn't look as easy and taste as good. (Staff) 8 Sixth St. (at Market), S.F. 626-0927. Vietnamese, L/D, ¢.

Waterfront The Bay Bridge views from the upstairs dining room are serene. Don't be upstars dining from are seriel. Don't be intimidated by the overelaborate menu: everything is magnificent. (P.R., 12/98) Pier 7 (Embarcadero at Broadway), S.F. 391-2696. California, BR/L/D, \$\$\$, AE/DC/

North Beach, Chinatown

Black Cat won't be remembered as Reed Hearon's best restaurant, but it does offer many satisfying dishes at reasonable prices. Seafood linguine and Singapore noodles represent the best of the kitchen's low-key effectiveness, and Hearon's signature iron-skillet-roasted mussels are reliably fine. (P.R., 9/99) 501 Broadway (at Kearny), S.F. 981-2233. Eclectic, L/D, \$\$, AE/DC/MC/V. **Da Flora** advertises Venetian specialties, but you won't find much in the way of seafood or risotto here. The pastas are tours de force of balance and composition, while notes from Central Europe (veal in paprika cream sauce) and points east (whiffs of nutmeg) creep into other fine dishes. (P.R., 4/99) 701 Columbus (at Filbert), S.F. 981-4664. Italian, D. \$\$, MC/V.

Dalla Torre Tucked away on the northeast slope of Telegraph Hill, this is one of the most inaccessible restaurants in the city. The multilevel dining room — a cross between an Italian country inn and a Frank Lloyd Wright house — offers memorable bay views, but the pricey food is erratic. (P.R., 4/99) 1349 Montgomery (at Union), S.F. 296-1111. Italian, D, \$\$\$, AE/DC/DISC/ MC/V.

Enrico's Sidewalk Cafe remains a classic see and-be-seen part of the North Beach scene. The full bar and extensive menu of tapas, pizzas, pastas, and grills make dropping in at any hour a real treat. (S.R., 5/98) 504 Broadway (at Kearny), S.F. 982-6223. Italian, L/D, \$\$, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V.

House of Nanking never fails to garner raves from restaurant reviewers and Bay Guardian readers alike. Chinatown ambience, great food, good prices. (Best Ofs, 1994) 919 Kearny (at Columbus), S.F. 421-1429. Chinese, L/D, ¢.

Maykadeh Persian Cuisine is a great date restaurant, classy but not too pricey, and there are lots of veggie options both for appetizers and entrées. Khoresh bademjan was a delectable, deep-red stew of tomato and eggplant with a rich, sweet, almost chocolaty undertone. (E.S., 2/97) 470 Green (C.S.). S. E. 362, 3939. Porrisin J. D. S. (at Grant), S.F. 362-8286. Persian, L/D, \$,

Michelangelo Cafe There's always a line out-side this quintessential North Beach restau-rant, but it's well worth the sidewalk time for Michelangelo's excellent Italian, served

in a bustling, family-style atmosphere. The seafood dishes are recommended; approach the postprandial Gummi Bears at your own risk. (Staff) 597 Columbus (at Union), S.F. 986-4058, Italian, D. \$\$.

Moose's is famous for the Mooseburger an estimable patty of ground beef with fine fries — but the rest of the menu is comfortably sophisticated, with touches from all around the Mediterranean. The crowd is moneyed but not showy and definitely not nouveau. (P.R., 10/99) 1652 Stockton (at Union), S.F. 989-7800. American, BR/L/D, \$\$, AE/DC/MC/V.

Rose Pistola At Reed Heron's lively and upscale Rose Pistola, Italian is the cuisine on the table. There's plenty to choose from on this extensive menu — from small tapaslike treats like house-cured fish or goat cheese and bresola crostini to roasted quail and and bresid crossin to roasted qual and crackling-crusted shrimp pizza. (S.R., 8/9 532 Columbus (at Green), S.F. 399-0499. Italian, L/D, \$\$, AE/DC/MC/V.

Zax belongs to the group of top-flight mid-1990s neighborhood restaurants that were and are the best places to eat California cuisine. From a goat-cheese soufflé with apple-fennel slaw to braised lamb shank with pancetta-scented white beans, the food — fresh, precise, imaginative but not too — is the star. (P.R., 7/00) 2330 Taylor (at Columbus), S.F. 563-6266. California, D, \$\$, MC/V.

SoMa

Asiast Priscilla, Queen of the Desert meets Asian-influenced tapas at this amusingly surreal lounge. The inexpensive fusion food comes and goes (best bets: beef burger, spicy minced chicken), but the drag-queen burlesque spectacle draws a varied audience that's a show in itself. (P.R., 9/98) 201 Ninth St. (at Howard), S.F. 255-2742. Fusion, D, \$, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V.

Azie Chef Jody Denton's menu is spit-andpolish, from a dazzling plate of nine bites (including a fabulous crab pot de creme) to such miraculous sauces as the tangerinesuch miraculous sauces as the tangerine-curry number that accompanies a batter-fried whole Thai snapper. (P.R., 1/00) 826 Folsom (at Fourth St.), S.F. 538-0918. Fusion, D. \$\$\$, AE/DC/MC/V.

Basil A serene, upscale oasis amid the industrial supply warehouses, Basil offers California-influenced Thai cuisine that's lively and creative. (S.R., 3/95) 1175 Folsom (at Eighth St.), S.F. 552-8999. Thai, L/D, \$, AE/MC/V.

Big Nate's Barbecue is pretty stark inside mostly linoleum arranged around a pair of massive brick ovens. But the hot sauce will make you sneeze. (P.R., 7/99) 1665 Folsom (at 12th St.), S.F. 861-4242. Barbecue, L/D,

Bizou Chef-owner Loretta Keller's Provençal-influenced menu is big on flavor, from a pissaladière like flat bread topped with caramelized onions, cheese, and olives to grilled duck breast with slices of roasted peach. This restaurant is sure of itself; there is no overreaching. (P.R., 9/99) 598 Fourth St. (at Brannan), S.F. 543-2222. California,

L/D, \$\$\$, AE/MC/V. L/D, \$\$\$, AE/MC/V.

Le Charm is the perfect spot to settle into a padded banquette and order wine and lamb chops and lovely little crème caramels. (S.R., 2/98) 315 Fifth St. (at Folsom), S.F. 546-6128. French, L/D, \$\$, MC/V.

Enzo's is worth finding, not just for the credible tiramisu (enhanced with raspberries) but also for the rest of the predictably

resty menu and the eminently fair prices. (P.R., 9/98) 510 Brannan (at Fourth St.), S.F. 974-3696. Italian, L/D, \$, AE/MC/V.

974-3696. Italian, L/D, \$, AE/MC/V. Hawthorne Lane If you want to feel virtuously cultured and coddled at the same time, take a spin through the galleries at SF-MOMA, then duck in for a late lunch at Hawthorne Lane, with its English-storybook decor. (S.R., 2/98) 22 Hawthorne Lane (between Second and Third Sts., at Howard), S.F. 777-9779. California, L/D, \$\$\$, MC/V.

Infusion Beloved by the multimedia types plugged in around South Park, this noisy but cool-looking bar-restaurant features a bevy of vodkas infused with everything from kiwi to coffee beans. Plates, especially at dinner, can be a little busy, and the menu's not for the pepper-shy. (S.R., 5/96) 555 Second St. (at Brannan), S.F. 543-2282. American, L/D, \$\$, AE/DC/MC/V

Continued on page 36





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listings

Eat Here Now

From page 35

Left Coast Cafe brings a breath of California freshness to the otherwise slightly antiseptic atrium of the Dolby Building. Healthy sandwiches (tuna, hummus), a decent Caesar, good mom-style cookies and brownies. (P.R., 10/00) 999 Brannan (at 9th), S.F. 522-0232. California, B/L, 4,

cash only. **LuLu** defines the modern California restaurant. Many dishes acquire a heart swelling smokiness from the oven - a plate of portobello mushrooms, say, with soft polenta and mascarpone butter. (P.R., 7/99) 816 Folsom (at Fourth St.), S.F. 495-5775. Mediterranean, L/D, \$\$\$,

Maya is like a good French restaurant serving elegant food that tastes Mexican. serving elegant food that tastes Mexican. There are unforgettable tastes here: corn kernels steeped in vanilla, lovely grilled pork tenderloin served with a pipian sauce of pumpkinseed and tamarind. (P.R., 5/99) 303 Second St. (at Folsom), S.F. 543-6709. Mexican, L/D, \$\$\$, AE/DC/DISC/MCM/

DISC/MC/V.

ThirstyBear Brewing Co. Young workhard, play-hard types from the Financial District and Multimedia Gulch have District and Multimedia Gulch have made this brick-walled brew pub their own, knocking back pints of ale and nibbling their way through a great selection of Spanish tapas. (S.R., 11/96) 661 Howard (at New Montgomery), S.F. 974-0905. Spanish, L/D, \$, AE/MC/V.

Nob Hill, Russian Hill

Antica Trattoria Standouts on the small, seasonal menu include fennel salad with blood oranges, pappardelle with aspara-gus, and grilled lamb with caponata. Fluffy, sweet, and undemanding, the coppa Antica, tiramisu, and warm ricotta pudding are the angora sweaters of the dessert world. (S.R., 4/97) 2400 Polk (at Union), S.F. 928-5797. Italian, D, \$\$, DC/ AE/MC/V.

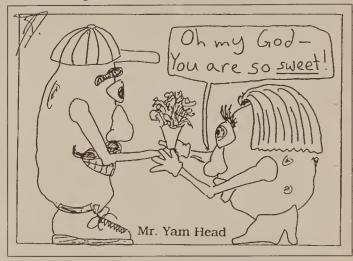
Crustacean is famous for its roast Dungeness crab, but the truly addictive item on the menu here is the plate of demure-looking garlic noodles. The rest of the "Euro/Asian" menu is refreshingly Asian in emphasis. (P.R., 2/99) 1475 Polk (at California), S.F. 776-2722. Fusion, L/D, \$\$, AE/MC/V.

Le Jardin feels a bit like a second-story beer hall, but the chef is a Slanted Door alumnus, and his Vietnamese food shows promising glints of that experience. The dining room can be a bit drafty but does afford good views of the still-seedy Polk Street scene. (P.R., 1/01) 1160 Polk (at Sutter), S.F. 885-1378. Vietnamese, L/D,

Wasabi and Ginger looks to become a popular — and long-running — neighborhood spot. The sushi is first rate, but the great stuff on the menu is cooked: buttery-tender beef short ribs and a seafood-miso soup served in a teapot. (P.R., 1/01) 2299 Van Ness (at Vallejo), S.F. 345-1368. Japanese, L/D, \$, MC/V. Yabbies Coastal Kitchen There's lots to shuck and swallow at the raw bar, but don't miss tropical seafood cocktails (like the crab with mango and lemongrass) piled glamorously into martini glasses. Splendid porcini-seared sea bass, grilled spielinda potenii-seared sea bass, grined sailfish, and scallops with truffled mush-room salad. Save room for the hot fudge sundae. (S.R., 3/97) 2237 Polk (at Green), S.F. 474-4088. California, D, \$\$, MC/V. Zarzuela's rich selection of truly delicious tapas and full meals make it a neighborhood favorite. (Staff) 2000 Hyde (at Union), S.F. 346-0800. Tapas, D, \$\$, DISC/MC/V.

Civic Center, Tenderloin Ananda Fuara serves a distinctly Indianinfluenced vegetarian menu in the sort of calm surroundings that are increasingly the exception to the rule. Service is friendly and swift, prices low, and you can get dal with practically everything. (P.R., 2/00) 1298 Market (at Ninth St.), S.F. 621-1994. Vegetarian, L/D, ¢, cash only.

The Groaning Board



Attention cartoonists: We're looking for cartoons about food and restaurants. Send them to Dine Cartoons, San Francisco Bay Guardian, 520 Hampshire St., S.F., CA 94110.

Canto do Brasil The draw here is lusty yeoman cooking, Brazilian style, at beyeoman cooking, brazinian style, at beguilingly low prices. The tropically cerulean interior design, with fat comfy chairs, ceiling fans, and lots of plants enhances the illusion of sitting at a beach café. (P.R., 10/98) 41 Franklin (at Oak), S.F. 626-8727. Brazilian, L/D, S. MC/V. Cordon Bleu has huge portions, tiny prices, and a hoppin' location right next to the Lumiere Theatre. The special here is five-spice roasted chicken, half a bird for \$5.15 with country cabbage salad and a big mountain of meat sauce-smothered rice. (D.L., 4/97) 1574 California (at Polk), S.F. 673-5637. Vietnamese, L/D, ¢. Indigo serves up good California cuisine in a pleasantly stylish setting. A great presymphony choice. (S.R., 8/97) 687 McAllister (at Gough), S.F. 673-9353. California, D, \$\$, \$AE/MC/V.

California, D, \$\$, AE/MC/V.

Jardinière combines an aggressively elegant Pat Kuleto design with the calm confidence of Traci des Jardins's cooking. The best dishes — foie gras with pear gastrique and brioche, a dessert of mascarpone-stuffed crepes and sliced plums sautéed in muscat — are unforgettable.

(P.R., 11/98) 300 Grove (at Franklin), S.F. 861-5555. California, D, \$\$\$, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V.

Max's Opera Cafe Huge food is the theme

Max's Opera Cafe Huge food is the theme here, from softball-size matzo balls to towering desserts. And though it's fun to eat these Alice-in-Wonderland portions, don't expect anything highfalutin or sub-tle here, as Max's is your basic Jewish deli. (Staff) 601 Van Ness (at Golden Gate), S.F. 771-7300. American, L/D, \$, AE/DC/ DISC/MC/V.

Millennium Finally, a restaurant where you can toast your vegan friends in style. Phyllo purses stuffed with wild mushrooms and tofu ricotta and silky choco-late midnight cake are just a few of the organic, low-fat, and animal-free treats that will please both veggies and omnivores alike. (Staff) 246 McAllister (at Larkin), S.F. 487-9800. Vegetarian, D, \$\$,

Pagolac For \$10.95 a person you and two or more of your favorite beef eaters can dive into Pagolac's specialty: seven-flavor beef. Besides grill-your-own, there's also a hot pot and five other beef dishes. Less carnivorous types can try the cold spring rolls, shrimp on sugarcane, or lemongrass tofu. (S.R., 1/97) 655 Larkin (at Ellis), S.F. 776-3234. Vietnamese, L/D, \$\(\)

paul K offers an eastern Mediterranear menu as good as any in town, at notably uninflated prices. The mountain flat bread alone (along with two kinds of hummus) is worth a visit, but the menu accelerates smoothly all the way to dessert, where a cardamom fritter casts new light on our old friend the dough-nut. (P.R, 4/00) 199 Gough (at Oak), S.F. 552-7132. Mediterranean, D, \$\$, AE/DC/

Stars subtly recombines old elements with new. The long bar is still there, as is a big chunk of the power elite, but the mood is more stylishly democratic than before. So is the food: from elegant salads old standby the big burger, the menu achieves vivid effects with nimbleness and restraint. (P.R., 4/00) 55 Golden Gate (at Van Ness) S.F. 861-STARS. California, L/D, \$\$, AE/DC/MC/V.

Tavern on the Tenderloin gives students at the California Culinary Academy a chance to serve real, paying customers, and for the most part they're up to the challenge. The lunch deal (\$10.95 for three courses) is a good one, and the kitchen handles the more difficult cases, such as fish, with considerable skill and some art. Service can be erratic. (P.R., 7/99) 635 Polk (at Turk), S.F. California, L/D, \$, AE/MC/V.

Hayes Valley
Absinthe Whether it's the rosy terra cotta walls or the comfortable curved-back rat-tan chairs, Absinthe has a welcoming bistro ambience that's almost irresistible. With a wide variety of salads, shellfish, cheese plates, and little fried things, Absinthe is a great place to graze. (S.R., 3/98) 398 Hayes (at Gough), S.F. 551 1590. Southern French, B/BR/L/D, \$\$, AE/MC/V.

Arlequin offers light Provençal and Mediterranean food for takeout, but the best place to take your stuff is to the sunny, tranquil garden in the rear. There's a nice version of croque monsieur, irresistible fried chickpeas, and, for oenophiles, an adjoining wine shop, Amphora. (P.R., 3/00) 384B Hayes (at Gough), S.F. 863-0926. Mediterranean, B/L/D, ¢, MC/V.

Bistro Clovis Long a beacon for those seeking a gently Parisian experience, this Market Street restaurant feels homey and welcoming. Standout dishes include a delicate trout galette, classic French onion soup, and a plump, silky haunch of rab-bit. (S.R., 1/98) 1596 Market (at Page), S.F. 864-0231. French, L/D, \$\$, AE/DC/

DISC/MC/V.

Carta Restaurant and Bar The U.N. of restaurants - a different ethnic or rerestaurants — a different entitic of regional menu every month — recently added the adjoining storefront space and is now twice as lovable. The three-course lunch deal is one of the best ones going. (P.R., 4/99) 1760 Market (at Octavia), S.F. 863-3516. World, L/D, \$\$, AE/DC/DISC/

Destino reweaves traditional Peruvian flavors into a tapestry of extraordinary vividness and style, and the storefront interior has been given a golden glow that would have satisfied the most restless conquistador. Campy desserts include an Continued on page 38



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e listings

Eat Here Now

irresistible, bûche-de-Noël-like "Latino lover." (P.R., 6/00) 1815 Market (at Guerrero), S.F. 552-4451. Peruvian, D, \$\$\$, Hayes Street Grill still offers a workable

Hayes Street Grill still offers a workable formula: the best fish, prepared with conservative expertise and offered with a choice of sauce and excellent pommes frites. An old, reliable friend. (P.R., 4/99) 320 Hayes (at Franklin), S.F. 863-5545. Seafood, L/D, \$\$, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V. Piaf's Songs of the Little Sparrow make up much of the background music, and there's a general aura of Continental pampering to accompany special-occasion dishes like rack of lamb. With its amattentive service, Piaf's is perfect for a birthday dinner or big date. (S.R., 10/97) 1686 Market (at Gough), S.F. 864-3700. French, BR/D, S\$, AE/DISC/M/V.

Suppenküche has a Busvan for Bargains, butcher-block look that gives context to its German cuisine. If you like schnitzel, brats, roasted potatoes, eggs, cheese, cucumber salad, cold cuts, and cold beer, you'll love it here. (P.R., 5/00) 601 Hayes (at Laguna), S.F. 252-9289. German, BR/D, \$, AE/MC/V.

Terra Brazilis Bistro The Brazilian menu ranges from such traditional items as feijoada (the black-bean stew) to tuna loin, skewered on a sugar cane, then grilled. The restaurant's city-slick design is a warm, welcoming assemblage of exposed brick, honey-colored wood, and plate glass. (P.R., 1/00) 602 Hayes (at Laguna), S.F. 241-1900. Brazilian, BR/D. \$\$. AF/ 241-1900. Brazilian, BR/D, \$\$, AE/ CB/DISC/MC/TM/V.

Zuni The old standbys are reliable, though Zuni The old standbys are reliable, though the famous burger could do with a bit less focaccia, and the oddly greasy Caesar salad is far from the best in town. The best dishes are Italian in their simplicity and pureness. (P.R., 7/99) 1658 Market (at Franklin), S.F. 552-2522. California, B/L/D, \$\$\$, AE/MC/V.

Castro, Noe Valley, Glen Park

Alice's sits on an obscure corner of outer Noe Valley, but the Chinese food is reli ably fresh, tasty, and cheap. The decor is surprisingly elegant, too: Wedgwood place settings and displays of blown glass. (P.R., 7/00) 1599 Sanchez (at 29th St.), S.F. 282-8999. Chinese, L/D, \$, MC/V. Amberjack Sushi is like a miniature version of Blowfish or Tokyo Go Go. The more complex dishes, such as a tunasashimi tartare with lemon olive oil, are better than the simple, traditional stuff, which can be overchilled. Fine service, moderate prices. (P.R., 1/00) 1497 Church (at 27th St.), S.F. 920-1797. Japanese, L/D, \$, AE/MC/V.

Bacco breathes north-Italian authenticity, from the terra-cotta-colored walls to the traditional but vivid yeal preparations. One of the best neighborhood Italian restaurants in town. (P.R, 7/00) 737 Diamond (at 24th St.), S.F. 282-4969. Italian, D. \$\$, MC/V.

Blue dishes up home cooking as good as any mom's, in a downtown New York environment — of mirrors, gray blue walls, and spotlights — that would blow most moms away. First-rate meat loaf, mushroom soup, and sautéed calamari compete for the most part successfully with pete, for the most part successfully, with the gay glamorama on both sides of the big plate-glass windows along Market Street. (P.R., 7/99) 2337 Market (at Cas tro), S.F. 863-2583. American, BR/L/D, \$,

Cafe Cuvée Café by day, nice restaurant by night, and though the ambitious (and well-executed) California cuisine menu seems at odds with the bare-bones decor, the down-to-earth style of Cafe Cuvée has a steady neighborhood following. (S.R., 8/97) 2073 Market (at 14th St.), S.F. 621-7488. California, B/L/D, \$\$, AE/MC/V. Cafe J keeps a low decorative profile, but the Basque dishes really rock. The pariat-ta— a reinterpretation of seafood paella, seasoned with ginger and cilantro - is

one of the best restaurant dishes you're likely to eat in this town. And the Basquestyle mussels aren't far behind. (P.R., 11/00) 1708 Church (at 29th St.), S.F. 70-1095. French/Basque, D, \$\$, MC/V. Chenery Park is the restaurant Glen Park has been waiting for all these years: a calm, understated setting (lots of stairs!) and an eclectic American menu with plenty of sly twists. A worthy addition to the city's array of first-class neighbor-hood restaurants. (P.R., 11/00) 683 Ch-enery (at Diamond), S.F. 337-8537.

merican, D, \$\$, MC/V. Chow With a comfortable, tavernish feel, Chow serves up an easy Californian blend of American and Italian favorites, with a few Asian elements thrown into the mix. There's a daily sandwich special, salads, numerous pastas, pizzas, grilled chicken done two ways, and of course, a burger, listed here as a "royale with cheese." (S.R., 7/97) 215 Church (at Market), S.F. 552-2469. California, L/D, ¢, MC/V. Eric's On any given night Eric's pink-andgreen neon sign is a beacon to Noe Valleyites, who risk losing their overnight parking to dig into the likes of mango shrimp, hoisin green beans, and spicy eggplant with chicken in this bright, airy space. (S.R., 9/96) 1500 Church (at 27th S.R./S.) S. 27, 2010 Chipper L/D. S. MC/U. St.), S.F. 282-0919. Chinese, L/D, \$, MC/V. Firefly One of the best of S.F.'s neighborhood restaurants, Firefly promises an in-novative (Medi/Asian), perfectly prepared meal. The menu rotates each week and could include bayou gumbo, shrimp and scallop dumplings, or vegetarian cassoulet. Whatever entices you, be sure cassourer. Whatever entities you, be sare to save room for dessert. (Staff) 4288 24th St. (at Douglass), S.F. 821-7652. American, D, \$\$, AE/MC/V. Firewood Cafe Firewood serves up food that's trendy but tasty, hip without being

weird, familiar but still a must-have. Deli-cious thin, chewy-crusted pizzas, four cious thin, chewy-crusted pizzas, four kinds of tortellini, rotisserie-roasted chicken, and big bowls of salad. (S.R., 2/97) 4248 18th St. (at Diamond), S.F. 252-0999. Italian, L/D, ¢, MC/V. Incontro serves up Italian classics in a converted Castro Victorian with levels and staircases and tables all over the place. Nifety could be to be be beautiful to the converted to the conv place. Nifty small touches breathe new life into standard dishes: a splash of brandy with the eggplant and prosciutto in the veal saltimbocca, an uncluttered combination of shrimp and crab in the seafood ravioli. (P.R., 10/99) 4230 18th St. (at Diamond), S.F. 437-6722. Italian, D, \$, MC/V.

Johnfrank The menu here is a set of celebratory variations on a simple theme of meat and potatoes. The adjoining park-ing lot is a welcome touch. (P.R., 12/99) 2100 Market (at Church), S.F. 503-0333.

La Mooné rides a menu roller coaster from excellent to forgettable, but the best dishes (lamb tataki, beef rib eye) will leave you exclaiming. The second-floor space brings a welcome serenity. (P.R., 12/00) 4072 18th St. (at Castro), S.F. 355-1999. Fusion, D, \$\$, MC/V.

Legume brings a stylish vegetarian menu to the heart of Noe Valley. Goat cheese enlivens many of the dishes; fresh pro-duce, much of it organic, does the rest. (P.R., 8/00) 4042 24th St. (at Castro), S.F. 401-7668. Vegetarian, B/L/D, \$, MC/V. Miss Millie's has quietly become one of the best restaurants in Noe Valley. Lots of Latin American flourishes in its panethnic comfort menu, and still a great place for brunch. (P.R., 12/00) 4123 24th St. (at Castro), S.F. 285-5598. California, BR/D, \$\$, MC/V.

Nirvana True to its name, pan-Asian noodle house Nirvana offers a peaceful respite from busy Castro streets. Although noodles make up the bulk of the menu, there's also a list of entrées that range from stir-fried jicama to grilled lemongrass chicken. (S.R., 6/98) 544 Castro (at 18th St.), S.F. 861-2226. Pan-Asian, L/D, \$, MC/V.

Savor has transformed the old Courtyard Cafe into a fantasy of a Mediterranean country inn. Pesto, sun-dried tomatoes, grilled eggplant, feta cheese, olives, garlic, roasted peppers, spinach, mushrooms, et al. occur in various permutations

throughout the menu's crepes, omelettes, frittatas, sandwiches, and salads. (S.R., 10/96) 3913 24th St. (at Noe), S.F. 282-0344. Mediterranean, B/L/D, \$, MC/V Tin-Pan Asian Bistro This slick pan-Asian eatery boasts stylishly inviting decor, an intriguing but accessible list of fingerfood appetizers, and numerous noodle dishes. Some of the plates are worth going back for — gingery pot stickers, tender green lip mussels — but several-dishes miss the mark. (S.R., 10/97) 2251 Market (at Noe), S. F. 565-0733. Pan-Asian, L/D, S, MC/V.

Tita's Hale Aina There is no poi, but there is Sanny which can be ordered with the re-

is Spam, which can be ordered either as a side dish or folded into an omelette. Other traditional dishes include a tasty lomi lomi scramble chock-full of scal-lions, tomatoes, and salmon, and refreshing cold green tea soba noodles. (S.R., 12/97) 3870 17th St. (at Noe), S.F. 626-2477. Hawaiian, B/L/D, ¢. Valentine's Cafe still packs them in after

five years and despite an increasingly competitive environment. The best dishes
— and that's most of them — are meatless in origin: dal, linguine puttanesca (with only the anchovies omitted), black-bean quesadillas. Surprisingly bewitching desserts. (P.R., 8/00) 1793 Church (at 30th St.), S.F. 285-2257. Vegetarian, BR/ D, \$, AE/MC/V.

Haight, Cole Valley, **Western Addition**

Alamo Square With its appealing but un-fussy decor, welcoming service, and gentle prices, Alamo Square is an archetype for the "good little place around the corner." Five different kinds of fish are offered next to different kinds of fish are offered next to three cooking techniques and five sauces. (S.R., 4/98) 803 Fillmore (at Grove), S.F. 440-2828. Seafood, D, \$, MC/V. Ali Baba's Cave Veggie shish kebabs are grilled fresh to order, the hummus and

grilled fresh to order, the hummus and baba ghanoush are subtly seasoned and delicious. (Staff) 531 Haight (at Fillmore), S.F. 255-7820; 799 Valencia (at 19th St.), S.F. 863-3054. Middle Eastern, L/D, ¢, MC/V. **Asqew Grill** reinvents the world of fine fast food on a budget with skewers, served in under 10 minutes for under 10.

served in under 10 minutes for under 10 bucks. The interior design is a little drab, but with the Haight Street scene parading by the windows, you'll never notice. (P.R., 6/99) 1607 Haight (at Clayton), S.F. 701-9301. California, L/D, ¢, MC/V.

Brother-in-Laws Bar-B-Cue always wins the "Best Barbecue" prize in our annual Best of Bay edition: the ribs, chickens, links, and brisket are smoky and succu-lent; the aroma sucks you in like a tractor beam. (Staff) 705 Divisadero (at Grove), S.F. 931-7427. Barbecue, L/D, \$.

Caffe Proust feels a bit like a graduatestudent lounge, with a decent Italian-influenced menu priced as if it were 10 years ago. The "Proust" fries are unbelievably good — far and away the best in town. (P.R., 6/00) 1801 McAllister (at Baker), S.F. 345-9560. Italian, BR/D, \$, AE/MC/TM/V.

EOS serves one of the best fusion menus in town, but be prepared for scads of yuppies and lots of noise. (P.R., 10/00) 901 Cole (at Carl), S.F. 566-3063. Fusion, D, \$\$, AE/MC/V.

Ganges spices its savory vegetarian Indian fare with a very liberal hand. The menu changes often to take advantage of seasonal vegetables and the creativity of the chef. (Staff) 775 Frederick (at Willard), S.F. 661-7290. Indian, D, \$, MC/V. Grandeho's Kamekyo Sushi Bar Always packed, Grandeho serves up excellent The speciality rolls are excellent; if you're straying from the raw fish, good choices include yam noodle salad and chicken yakitori. (Staff) 943 Cole (near Carl), S.F. 59-5693. Japanese, L/D, \$\$, AE/MC/V. Kate's Kitchen is a clean and cozy store-front breakfast-and-lunch spot that dishes up the best scallion-cheese biscuits out west. The lines on the weekends are just as long as they are down the street at Spaghetti Western. (Staff) 471 Haight (at Fillmore), S.F. 626-3984. American, B/L, ¢.



Magnolia Pub and Brewery A mellow atmosphere and beers that taste distinctly hand-crafted make great accompaninand-crafted make great accompaniments to burgers, chicken wings, alesteamed mussels, pizzas, along with some unexpected Cali fusion like grilled soysesame eggplant with green onion rice fritters. (S.R., 12/97) 1398 Haight (at Masonic), S.F. 864-PINT. Brew pub, BR/L/D, AE/MC/V

Massawa Everything at this homey Eritrean restaurant — even the vegetarian stuff — was great. The tsebhi-derho (dark-meat chicken) was still on the bone and smothered in a tomato-based sort of barbecue sauce. My favorite was kelwa — tender pieces of beef sautéed in spiced clarified butter." (D.L., 12/97) 1538 Haight (at Ashbury), S.F. 621-4129. Eritrean, L/D, \$, AE/DC/MC/V.

Metro Cafe brings the earthy chic of Paris's 11th arrondissement to the Lower Haight, prix fixe and all. Chrome bistro chairs, veal in lemon sauce, rack of lamb, and croque monsieur all have that City of Light feel, at notably moderate prices. (P.R., 10/00) 311 Divisadero (at Oak), S.F. 2-0903. French, B/BR/L/D, \$, MC/V Red Sea Cafe offers fish and chips - hut blow them off in favor of something spicy, Eritrean style, plucked from the plate with a segment of injera, the spongy, crepelike bread. Shiro, a paste of ground peas and berbere seasonings, will set a joyful blaze in your mouth; curried lamb is excellent. Dim atmospherics. (P.R., 9/00) 494 Haight (at Fillmore), S.F. ritrean, L/D, ¢, AE/MC/V

Storyville is more conducive to dancin' and drinkin' than to eatin', but if you don't mind having music blast while you eat, then try the blackened catfish or the veggie jambalaya. Go before 9 p.m. when the cover charge kicks in. (Liz Hille, 6/00) 1751 Fulton (at Masonic), S.F. 441-1751. Cajun, L/D, \$\$, MC/V.

Mission, Bernal Heights, Potrero Hill

Al's Cafe Good Food Al's is the best dang diner in town. Everything here is great, from the home fries and eggs to the chili and burgers, and even the toast in between. (D.L., 3/98) 3286₁/2 Mission (at 29th St.), S.F. 641-8445. American, B/L, ¢. Amira, a multileveled cave out of the Arabian Nights, melds virtuosic belly dancing shows with veggie kehahs; smoky, del star choice, Turkish eggplant, a handsome portion of unbelievably tender sautéed aubergine in a marinara sauce. (E.S., 4/97) 590 Valencia (at 17th St.), S.F. 621 6213. Middle Eastern, D, \$, MC/V. Angkor Borei Nicely presented smallish portions of real good food, friendly ser-vice, and excellent atmosphere way down on Mission Street. Everything we tried was dee-goddang-licious, including cold Cambodian noodles, sour soup, and shrimp and pineapple curry. (D.L., 3/96) 3471 Mission (at Cortland), S.F. 550-8417. Cambodian, L/D, \$, AE/DISC/MC/V. Baobab Bar and Grill A Senegalese hole-in he-wall, Baobah serves great-tasting West African specialties like couscous, fried plantains, and savory rice dishes for a reasonable price. (D.L., 11/97) 3388 19th St. (at Mission), S.F. 643-3558. African, BR/D, ©. Bistro E Europe is probably the only place in town and results the Burk Ass.) where you can sample the Bay Area — where you can sample the culinary flour ishes of those European wanderers, the Gypsies, or, as they call themselves, Roma. The basic cuisine is Hungarian: lots of paprika, sour cream, schnitzel, and of course, fried bread. A singular experience. (P.R., 8/00) 4901 Mission (at France), S.F. 469-5637. Hungarian/Gypsy, BR/D, \$\$, cash only.

Bitterroot resembles an Old West saloon (minus the swinging doors at the front), but the food is American classic — meat loaf, fried chicken, roasted pork loin, burgers — at very low prices. (P.R., 1/99) 3122 16th St. (at Valencia), S.F. 626-5523. American, B/L/D, \$, MC/V.

Blowfish glows red and inviting on an otherwise industrial and residential stretch of Bryant Street. Sushi — in pris-tine fingers of nigiri or in a half-dozen inventive hand rolls — is a marvel. (S.R., 2/97) 2170 Bryant (at 20th St.), S.F. 285-3848. Sushi, L/D, \$, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V. Bombay Ice Cream and Chaat You probably already knew Bombay on Valencia from the brilliant aroma of its market of imported Indian groceries, trinkets, and incense. You should also stop in for some Indian chaat — cheap, delicious fast food like samosas and curries. (E.S., 2/98) 552 Valencia (at 16th St.), S.F. 431-1103. Indian takeout, L/D, ¢

Bruno's retains an alluring 1940s feel — lots of red leather booths, dim lighting, a discreet hush — but the food is now higher-end California-Italian, best when simple. Killer hombolini (fresh dough-nuts). (P.R., 8/00) 2389 Mission (at 20th St.), S.F. 648-7701. Cal-Ital, D, \$\$, AE/

Burger Joint makes hamburgers like you remember from your childhood, with lettuce, onion, tomato, and mayonnaise. (Staff) 807 Valencia (at 19th St.), S.F. 824 3494. American, 1./D, ¢

Cafe Arguello soothes jangled urban nerves with an airy space, votive candles, louvered bistro tables, a subtly impressionist paint scheme — and moderately priced Spanish food, from tapas to blockbuster paellas. The place to go when you want to indulge your spontaneity muse. (P.R., 10/00) 1499 Valencia (at 26th St.), S.E. 643-3160. Spanish, D, \$, AE/DC/MC/V. Cafe Ethiopia It's basically a coffeehouse,

serving all the same coffees and teas and

Toranis as anyone else. It's just that they also have great, cheap Ethiopian food too (D.L., 6/97) 878 Valencia (at 20th St.), S.F. 285-2728. Ethiopian, B/L/D, ¢. Caffe Cozzolino Get it to go: everything's

about two to four bucks more if you eat it there. The vermicelli with tomatoes and basil and garlic (\$8) was pretty goddamn delicious. The spaghetti with clam sauce (\$9), on the other hand, was pretty goddamn weak. (D.L., 6/98) 300 Precita, S.F. 285-6005. Italian, L/D, \$, AE/MC/V.

Il Cantuccio strikingly evokes that little trattoria you found near the Ponte Vecchio on your last trip to Florence. Lovely pastas, pizza, salads, and risottos, and a pastas, pizza, salads, and risottos, and a lethally good chocolate tart for dessert. (P.R., 11/00) 3228 16th St. (at Guerrero). 861-3889. Italian, D, \$, MC/V. Delfina serves a Tuscan-influenced menu

gleaming with urban style. Fish dishes flirt with spectacular, as does the deceptively unassuming buttermilk panna cotta. (P.R., 1/99) 3621 18th St. (at Guer-rero), S.F. 552-4055. California, D. \$\$,

42° still serves up a panoply of Mediterranean dishes as various and imaginative as you'll find in the city. The free parking lot (behind the lisprit center) is the auto-motive equivalent of winning the lottery. the restaurant offers live jazz, so beware the noise. (P.R., 12/99) 235 16th St. (at Illinois), S.F. 777 5559. Mediterranean, D, \$\$\$, AE/MC/V.

Garibaldi Cafe Great service without the attitude and a wonderfully eclectic menu that often includes spicy pastas, grilled halibut, tandoori lamb, smoked chicken nanout, tandoor lamb, smoked chicken quesadillas, and filet mignon with pep-percorns. (Staff) 1600 17th St. (at Wis-consin), S.F. 552-3325. California/ Mediterranean, L/D, \$\$, AE/DC/MC/V. Gordon's House of Fine Eats The menu divides into five flights, one of which, "local showcase," holds the most interest,

including a fine fromage tart. The homemade s'more may not be the best in town, but it's among the biggest. (P.R., 6/99) 500 Florida (at Mariposa), S.F. 861-8900. California, L/D, \$\$\$, DC/MC/V.

Herbivore: The Earthly Grill is adorned in the immaculate-architect style: angular blond-wood surfaces and precise cubby holes abound. Lasagna with tofu ricotta gave hardly a clue that it was cheeseless, and the pesto-toast appetizer was amazingly rich. (E.S., 3/97) 983 Valencia (at 21st St.), S.F. 826-5657. Vegetarian, L/D,

Joe's Cable Car is the place where "Joe grinds his own fresh meat daily," and it shows. Fill up with a thick milkshake on the side, but skip the disappointing fries. (Staff) 4320 Mission (at Silver), S.F. 334-6699. American, L/D, \$, MC/V.

Just for You My favorite Potrero Hill hole-in-the-hill, Just for You serves up generally excellent, meaty meals with a spicy, Louisianic tint to them. The best way to break your fast here is with the crab cakes. (D.L., 5/98) 1453 18th St., S.F. 647-3033. American, B/L, \$.

The Liberties reinvents the Irish pub for millennial, digital times. The interior design evokes a 19th-century steamship; the food - mostly tasty, honest renditions of meat and potatoes — has an unmistak-ahle masculine cast. Best hets: baby hack ribs, fish and chips. (P.R., 4/00) 998 Guer rero (at 22nd St.), S.F. Irish, BR/L/D, \$, AE/DC/DS/MC/V

Liberty Cafe specializes in simple, perfect food: a Caesar salad that outshines all others; the best chicken pot pie in the city; and down-home desserts even a bake sale in Iowa couldn't heat. (S.R., 5/98) 410 Cortland (at Bennington), S.F. 695-8777 American, BR/L/D, \$-\$\$, AE/MC/V.

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<u>listings</u>

Eat Here Now

Luna Park bubbles over with the new Mission's nouveau riche, but even so, the food is exceptionally satisfying and not too expensive. Whether it's the grilled king salmon, the braised lamb shank, or the homemade s'mores, you'll have to look hard to find anything amiss. (P.R. 8/00) 694 Valencia (at 18th St.), S.F. 553-

8584. Californian, L/D, \$, MC/V. Mariachi's serves up its fare in a cheery pastel-painted space, and its chalkboard menu features ingredients like sautéed mushrooms, pineapple, and pesto. (E.S. 1/98) 508 Valencia (at 16th St.), S.F. 621-4358. Mexican, L/D, ¢.

Mi Lindo Perú dishes up mom-style cooking, Peruvian style, in illimitable portions. The shrimp chowder is astounding. Lots of tapas, too. (P.R., 3/00) 3226 Mission (at Valencia), S.F. 642-4897. Peruvian, L/D, \$, MC/V.

Mission Villa is the oldest Mexican restaurant in San Francisco. It's 90 years old, but it has a menu with interesting new dishes to complement the standard tradi-tional fare. (D.L., 11/96) 2391 Mission (at 20th St.), S.F. 826-0454. Mexican, L/D, \$,

Moki's Sushi and Pacific Grill serves imaginative specialty makis along with items from a pan-Asian grill in a small, bustling neighborhood spot. The kitchen's timing can sometimes be erratic, but the fresh, flavorful food is worth the wait. (Staff) 830 Cortland (at Gates), S.F. 970-9336. Japanese, D, \$\$, AE/DC/

NeO The all-white decor is a bit odd, if soothing, but it does provide a clean backdrop for the kitchen's clarion flavors. Virtually every dish delivers the goods, from gnocchi dressed with rabbit Bolognese sauce to braised pork shank nestled in mashed potatoes with a simple pandeglazed jus. (P.R., 12/99) 1007 Guerrero (at 22nd St.), S.F. 643-3119. American, D,

New Central Restaurant is the kind of place you'd find Richie and the Fonz hanging out if they were Latino. The kitchen serves Mexican comfort food, while ambience flows from the jukebox near the door. (P.R., 3/00) 399 South Van Ness (at 14th St.), S.F. 255-8247 or 621-9608. Mexican, B/L, ¢, cash only. North Star is younger sibling to Firefly

and has the same sort of seamless menu. The food ranges from excellent hummus with grilled curried flat bread to a cheese burger with fries, and the setting is flush with a quiet yellow beauty, like morning sunshine. (P.R., 3/99) 288 Connecticut (at 18th St.), S.F. 551-9840. California, BR/L/

Palace Steak House has been around since 1969 and is cluttered with 28 years' worth of chaotically festive stuff. For less than 10 bucks you can get a hell of a great steak dinner, with taters and salad and garlic bread. (D.L., 1/96) 3047 Mission (at Cesar Chavez), S.F. 647-2011. American, L/D, \$, DC/MC/V.

Pancho Villa The best word for this 16th Street taquería is big, from the large space to the jumbo-size burritos to the grand dinner plates of grilled shrimp. The only small thing is the price. (Staff) 3071 16th St. (at Valencia), S.F. 864-8840. Mexican,

Pakwan has a little secret: a secluded garden out back. It's the perfect place to enjoy the fiery foods of India and Pakistan. A collection of old bureaus and settees in front lends a pleasant antique-store gloss. (P.R., 6/00) 3180 16th St. (at Guerrero), S.F. 255-2440. Indian/ Pakistani, L/D, ¢, cash only.

Potrero Brewing Co. offers nicely upscaled pub food to accompany its smooth, fresh put roog to accompany its smooth, fresh microbrews. The sprawling outdoor terrace — a bow to the neighborhood's relatively sunny, warm weather — rivals that of MoMo's. (P.R., 6/99) 535 Florida (at Mariposa), S.F. 552-1967. American, L/D, \$\$, AE/MC/V,

Rasoi The food here is milder than the fiery south Indian curries, and it's very

vegetarian-friendly. Slowly revolving ceilvegetarian-friendly. Slowly revolving cell ing fans give a pleasant illusion of heat even when it's freezing outside. (P.R., 4/99) 1037 Valencia (at 22nd St.), S.F. 695-0599. Indian, D. \$, AE/MC/V. Scenic India will slake your craving for south Asian food, with fine tandoori items, strong variations on tikka masala,

and plenty of tasty vegetable dishes. If only Mom's had been so good. (P.R., 1/01) 532 Valencia (at 16th St.), S.F. 621 7226. Indian, D, \$, AE/DC/D1SC/MC/V. Slanted Door has hosted a food-oriented president, and with reason. Charles Pham's place gives a stylish California elaboration to the foods of Vietnam at prices that remain stubbornly reasonable despite huge popularity. If you want to walk in, try lunch, when the menu is more rustic. (P.R., 5/00) 584 Valencia (at 17th St.), S.F. 861-8032. Vietnamese, L/D,

Slow Club keeps things simple and direct, and that's always a stylish way to do it. Lots of seasonality (pasta with asparagus and fava beans) and classic preparations (an unbelievably tangy lemon-meringue pie), in a cool, edgy postindustrial space. (P.R., 4/00) 2501 Mariposa (at Hamp-shire), S.F. 241-9390. California, BR/L/D,

Sunflower strikes all the right notes of today's Mission: good, inexpensive Viet-namese food in a modish California ambience, with friendly, casual service. Tasty classics, such as barbecued lemongrass beef, are all here, and the lunch specials are a bonanza for the famished. (P.R., 11/98) 506 Valencia (at 16th St.), S.F. 626 5023. Vietnamese, L/D, \$, AE/MC/V. **Taqueria Can-Cun** serves up one of the best veggie burritos in town — delicious, juicy, and huge. (Staff) 2288 Mission (at 19th St.), S.F. 252-9560; 1003 Market (at Sixth St.), S.F. 864-6773. Mexican, L/D, ¢.

Ti Couz The menu of entrées here consists exclusively of crepes — from light snacks to full meals, from sweet to savory served up in a bright, boisterous café environment. (Staff) 3108 16th St. (at Valencia), S.F. 252-7373. Crepes, BR/L/D, \$,

Tokyo Go Go The simplest dishes are the best. Given the location and the thick crowds of people dressed in black, the noise level is surprisingly moderate. You can actually have a conversation here if you want to. (P.R., 3/99) 3174 16th St. (near Guerrero), S.F. 864-2288. Japanese,

Universal Cafe As neighborhood secrets go, Universal Cafe is a less well-kept one than most. Its cool industrial style har-bors a Cali-Ital menu with such heartwarming dishes as cassoulet, fettuccine with grilled salmon and spinach, and crisp-crusted house pizzas. (S.R., 1/98) 2814 19th St. (at Florida), S.F. 821-4608. California, B/L/D, \$\$, AE/MC/V.

La Villa Poppi feels like a Tuscan country inn. Each dish gets a little kiss of affec-tionate attention: fresh marjoram, say, in the risotto beneatb poached halibut, or the sage butter in which the day's gnocchi takes its final turn. (P.R., 11/99) 3234 22nd St. (at Mission), S.F. 642-5044. Italian, D, \$\$\$, MC/V.

Walzwerk bills itself as an "East German" restaurant, but don't be frightened: the food is fresh, clever, tasty, and surprisingly light. First-rate Wiener schnitzel and chicken fricassee; surprisingly tasty salads: carrot and celery root; marinated tomato, cucumber and cauliflower. The décor has a definite Cabaret edge. (P.R., 11/99) 381 S. Van Ness (at 15th), S.F. 551-7181. German, D, \$, MC/V. Watergate is beautifully appointed, in

buttery paint and wallpaper and dark wood, and the food matches up, from stylish foie gras with verjuice and grapes to an earthy choucroute lightened up with slices of lean pork tenderloin. (P.R., 2/99) 1152 Valencia (at 22nd St.), S.F. 648-6000. California, D, \$\$, AE/MC/V. Zante Pizza and Indian Cuisine is that famous Indian pizza place. Meaning it's got Indian food, it's got pizza, and it's got In-dian pizza. The regular 'za is just ordinary, but the Indian food's great, and the Indian pizza is really great. (D.L., 9/96) 3489 Mission (at Cortland), S.F. 821-3949; 3083 16th St. (at Valencia), S.F. 621-4189. Indian, L/D, \$, AE/DISC/MC/V

Marina, Pacific Heights Ace Wasabi's Rock 'n' Roll Sushi Sake

slushes and cutesy combo rolls are the hallmarks of this sushi spot, although nathranks of this sush spot, although seaweed salad, crispy vegetable tempura, and the hamachi and ahi tuna pot stickers are worth a mouthful. (S.R., 4/96) 3339 Steiner (at Lombard), S.F. 567-4903. Japanese, L/D, \$, AE/MC/V.

Aram's In this pretty brick courtyard space, start with the mixed mezze platter, then move on to artichoke risotto, grilled rack of lamb, or a wild mushroom-phyllo strudel. (S.R., 5/98) 3665 Sacramento (at Spruce), S.F. 474-8061. Middle Eastern, BR/D, \$\$, AE/MC/V.

B Spot invites relaxation, from the ceiling ans to the reassuring pub food to the fine smooth beer. There's a decent gumbo for dinner, and plenty of good sandwiches for lunch. (P.R., 6/00) 2301 Fillmore (at Clay), S.F. 614-1111. American, BR/L/D, \$, MC/V.

Betelnut Peiju Wu is a pan-Asian version of a tapas bar, drawing a sleek postcolle-giate-crowd with its wide assortment of dumplings, noodles, soups, and snacks and its house-brewed beers and witty tropical drinks. (S.R., 10/95) 2030 Union (at Buchanan), S.F. 929-8855. Asian, L/D,

Bistro Aix is more California than Carcassonne. Thin-crust pizzas, good salads, tender grilled lamb, crackling-skinned roast chicken, pillowy garlic mashed potatoes, and fabulous ratatouille make the terror of parking in this neighborhood at dinnertime almost worth it. (S.R., 5/98) 3340 Steiner (at Chestnut) S.F. 202-0100. California, D, \$\$, AE/DC/

Chez Nous fills the French slot in our town's tapas derby, and it does so with imagination, panache, and surprising economy. The menu features touches from around the Mediterranean, but much of the best stuff — croque mon-sieur, lamb chops with lavender salt — is unmistakably Gallic. (P.R., 5/00) 1911 Fillmore (at Pine), S.F. 441-8044. French,

Curbside Too, younger sibling to the Curbside Cafe, looks like a roadside greasy spoon. But come dinnertime the Mexican brunch influences melt into a sublime French saucefest. (P.R., 12/98) 2769 Lombard (at Lyon), S.F. 921-4442.

French, D, \$\$, AE/MC/V.

Dragon Well looks like an annex of the cavernous Pottery Barn down the street, but its traditional Chinese menu is radiant with fresh ingredients and careful preparation. Prices are modest, the service swift and professional. (P.R., 9/99) 2142 Chestnut (at Pierce), S.F. 474-6888. Chinese, I/D, 4, MC/V.

Eastside West fits right into the Cow Hollow scene. It's comfortably upscale, with low scene. It's comfortably upscale, with first-rate service and stylishly relaxed Cal-American food. (P.R., 1/01) 4154 Fillmore (at Greenwich), S.F. 885-4000. California/American, BR/D, \$\$, AE/MC/V. Elite Cafe A welcoming place. The menu has plenty of familiar Creole and Cajun favorites (blackened catfish, gumbo, jambalow) along with prose twicel California.

balaya) along with more typical Califorbalaya atong with index (property) and fare (baby greens in balsamic vinai-grette, grilled salmon). (S.R., 2/98) 2049 Fillmore (at California), S.F. 346-8668. Cajun, BR/D, \$\$, MC/V

Ella's serves breakfast, lunch, and supper, but brunch is the real destination at this friendly corner eatery. Start the day right with superlative chicken hash, great house-made breads, brandied French toast, and springy buttermilk pancakes. (S.R., 9/97) 500 Presidio (at California), S.F. 441-5669. American, B/BR/L/D, \$, AE/MC/V.

Greens is a vegetarian's fantasy of San Francisco. All the elements that made it famous are still intact: pristine produce, an emphasis on luxury rather than an emphasis on luxury rather than health, that gorgeous view. (M.W., 8/99; Restaurant Poll winner, 1995) Fort Mason Center, Bldg A, Marina at Laguna, S.F. 771-6222. Vegetarian, L/D, \$\$, DISC/

Continued on page 42





SAN FRANCISCO

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Thursday - Prime Rib of Beef Au Jus. Served with Baked Potato and Fresh Vegetable

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4112 Geary Blvd. at 5th 221-2114 * Visa, MC





listings

Eat Here Now

From page 41

Meeting House ought to make anybody's list of ultimate neighborhood California restaurants. The food is precise and hearty, the desserts all-American fantasies, the ambience a lovely balance be-tween old-fashioned and modern. (P.R., 9/00) 1701 Octavia (at Bush), S.F. 922-6733. California, D, \$\$\$, AE/MC/D.

Mezes glows with sunny Greek hospitality, and the plates coming off the grill—pork souvlaki, marinated prawns—are terrific, though not huge. Bulk up with a fine Greek salad. (P.R., 6/00) 2373 Chest. nut (at Divisadero), S.F. 409-7111. Greek, D, \$, MC/V.

Plump Jack Cafe If you had to take your parents to dinner in the Marina, this would be the place. A plush postmodern interior design, stylishly earthy food, and of course the famous wine list with its drastic discounts make PlumpJack a small but authentic jewel. (P.R., 4/99) 3127 Fillmore (at Filhert), S.F. 563-4755. California, L/D, \$\$, AE/MC/V.

Rose's Cafe has a flexible, all-day menu that starts with hreakfast sandwiches, moves into bruschettas, salads, and piz-zas, and finishes the day with grilled dinner specials like salmon, chicken, and flat-iron steak. And, of course, owner Reed Hearon's famous iron-skillet-roasted mussels. (S.R., 5/97) 2298 Union (at Steiner), S.F. 775-2200. California, B/L/D, \$, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V.

Rosti Getting half a chicken along with roasted potatoes and an assortment of vegetables for \$7.95 in the Marina is cause for celebration in itself. Lots of antipasti, remarkably delicate homemade pastas, and good grills. (S.R., 2/97) 2060 Chestnut (at Steiner), S.F. 929-9300. Italian, L/D, \$, AE/DISC/V. Saji Japanese Cuisine It would a crime not to eat the amazingly good raw fish here. Sit at the sushi har and ask the resi dent sushi makers what's particularly good that day. As for the hot dishes, seafood yosenabe, served in a clay pot, is a virtual Discovery Channel of finned and scaly heasts, all tasty and fresh. (S.R., 1/98) 3232 Scott (at Lombard), S.F. 931-0563. Japanese, D, \$, AE/DC/MC/V. Sushi Groove is easily as cool as its name Behind wasabi-green velvet curtains, sal ads can be inconsistent but the sushi is impeccable, especially the silky salmon and special white tuna nigiri. (S.R., 5/97) 1916 Hyde (at Union), S.F. 440-1905. Japanese, D, \$, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V. Takara moves its high-quality Japanese food quickly, so if you need to catch a flick at the nearby AMC Kabuki, it's just the place. The menu offers plenty of sushi and sashimi, as well as udon, broiled items, and the occasional curiosity such as grated yam. (P.R., 9/00) 22 Peace Plaza #202 (Japan Center), S.F. 921-2000. Japanese, L/D, \$, MC/V.

Trapdoor If it's tapas American-style that you seek, then Trapdoor's the place. The eclectic American food is cheap and for the most part very satisfying: a lovely chicken and dumpling stew, linguine with mussels and wild mushrooms, an excellent cheeseburger. (P.R., 1/99) 3251 Scott (at Chestnut), S.F. 776-1928. American, D. \$, AE/MC/V.

Via Vai The highly regarded Pane e Vino has opened a casual little sister named Via Vai, specializing in wood oven-fired pizzas and reasonably priced pastas. While the extensive menu may have few surprises, it's also solidly satisfying. (S.R., 4/98) 1715 Union (at Gough), S.F. 441-2111. Italian, L/D, \$, AE/MC/V.

ZAO Noodle Bar manages the seemingly impossible: the food's good, cheap, fresh; the service is friendly; there's an inexpensive parking lot half a block away. (P.R., 8/99) 2406 California (at Fillmore), S.F. 345-8088. Asian, L/D, ¢, MC/V.

Zinzino is an elegant addition to the restaurant-heavy Marina, with a snappy decor reminiscent of an Italian sidewalk café. The menu offers blistery-crusted pizzas, roasted meat and fish, and a silky wild mushroom lasagna. (S.R., 8/97) 2355 Chestnut (at Divisadero), S.F. 346-6623. Italian, D, \$\$, AE/MC/V

Sunset

Avenue 9 has turned a narrow, low-ceilinged box into a warm, lively, and inviting spot. Meat and potatoes hit the spot here, from crusty and deliciously seared range-raised lamb to juicy flat-iron steak. (S.R., 12/96) 1243 Ninth Ave. (at Irving), S.F. 664-699. California, BR/ L/D, \$\$, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V.

Blue Tortilla If you like fish tacos and are having trouble finding them, this could be the place. The cantina surroundings have a lively L.A. gloss; service is attentive and friendly. (P.R., 1/99) 641 Irving (at Eighth Ave.), S.F. 566-5515. Mexican, BR/ L/D, \$, AE/DC/MC/V.

Bocca Rotis The Italian food in this lovely West Portal space can he memorable, es pecially the desserts, which are reliably fine. If in doubt, stick to pasta over roast chicken. (P.R., 10/98) 1 West Portal (at Ulloa), S.F. 665-9900. Italian, BR/L/D, \$\$,

Cafe for All Seasons reflects the friendly vibrance of its West Portal neighborhood liveryone is welcome, from grandparents to small children to big fuzzy bears on a The California comfort food doesn't set off fireworks, hut it's reliably good and fresh. The perfect place to go with your parents. (P.R., 5/00) 150 West Portal (at Vicente), S.F. 665-0900. California, L/D, \$\$, AE/MC/V.

Einstein's Cafe is a colorfully quirky spot run by Youth Industry, the nonprofit group that creates businesses to give "onthe job training to inner-city youth." It makes amazing homemade bread, gigantic real-stuff salads, and soups of the days. (D.L., 9/97) 1336 Ninth Ave. (between Judah and Irving), S.F. 665-4840.

American, L/D, ¢.

Hotei is a marvel of great Japanese fare combined with efficient, accommodating service. Four types of noodles are the foundation around which swirl lively broths, each topped with compelling ingredients, such as delicate tempura, fresh seafood, tofu, or sliced beef. (Staff) 1290 Ninth Ave. (at Irving). 753-6045. Japanese, L/D, ¢, AE/DC/MC/V. House on Ninth An intimate, lowceilinged entrance area opens into a spa-cious, dramatically proportioned room lit with skylights. Small plates work the Asian-fusion theme hest here, like grilled scallops with mango salad and green hean tempura. (S.R., 5/97) 1269 Ninth Ave. (at Irving), S.F. 682-3898. Fusion, L/D, \$\$, AE/MC/V.

Joubert's cooks up a mostly vegan, all vegetarian menu that's an intriguing mix of South African, Indian, and Asian influ ences, and certainly worth a trip out to the beach. (S.R., 8/96) 4115 Judah (at 46th Ave.), S.F. 753-5448. Vegetarian, D, \$\$, AE/MC/V.

Marnee Thai A friendly, low-key neighborhood restaurant that just happens to serve some of the best Thai food in town The kitchen turns out such unusual dishes as a fresh corn-cakes appetizer and curried fish mousse wrapped in banana leaves. (Staff) 2225 Irving (at 23rd Ave.), S.F. 665-9500. Thai, L/D, \$, AE/MC/V. Masala means "spice mixture," and spices aplenty you will find in the south Asian menu. Don't miss the chicken tikka masala, and be sure to order plenty of nan to sop up the sauce with. (P.R., 11/00) 1220 Ninth Ave. (at Lincoln), S.F. 566-6976. Indian/Pakistani, L/D, \$, AE/

DC/DS/MC/V.

Organica This may be the only restaurant of its kind in the Bay Area - an upscale "live food" restaurant, where none of the healthy vegan cuisine is cooked. (Staff) 1224 Ninth Ave. (at Lincoln), S.F. 665 6519. Vegetarian, L/D, \$, AE/MC/V. **Park Chow** Eclectic home cooking with style, at habit-forming prices. Chow could probably thrive on its basic dishes, like the burger royale with cheese (\$6.95), but if you're willing to spend an extra five bucks or so, the kitchen can really flash you some thigh. (P.R., 10/98) 1240 Ninth Ave. (at Lincoln), S.F. 665-9912. California, BR/L/D, \$, MC/V P.J.'s Oyster Bed Of all the U.S. regional cultures, southern Louisiana's may be the most beloved, and at P.J.'s you can taste why. (Staff) 737 Irving (at Ninth Ave.),

S.F. 566-7775. Seafood, L/D, \$\$. AE/DC/

PISC/MC/V.

Pomelo The chefs in this itsy-bitsy restaurant serve up big portions of Asian- and Italian-inspired noodle dishes. If you need something quick, cheap, and fresh, pop in here. Lunch is less crowded than dinner. (Liz Hille, 6/00) 92 Judah (at 6th Ave.), S.F. 731-6175. Noodles, L/D, \$, cash only.

Prevot's serves a dud-free French-Italian menu with lots of traditional favorites menu with lots of traditional favorites spaghetti Bolognese, sole meuniere along with a few vegetarian offerings, such as pumpkin ravioli. Desserts emphasuch as pumpkin ravioli. Dessetts emphasize hoozy sauces. (P.R., 12/98) 400
Dewey (at Woodside), S.F. 661-9210.
Continental, D. \$\$, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V.
Tennessee Grill could as easily be called the
Topeka Grill, since its atmosphere is redolent of Middle America. Belly up to the
salad har for huge helpings of the basics to accompany your meat loaf or calf's liver. (P.R., 7/00) 1128 Taraval (at 22nd Ave), S.E. 664-7834. American, B/L/D, \$. MC/V. Yum Yum Fish is basically a fish store: three or four little tables with fish-print table-cloths under glass, fish-chart art along the wall, and fish-price signs all over the place. (D.L. 10/98) 2181 Irving (at 23rd Ave.), S.F. 566-6433. Sushi, L/D, ¢.

Richmond

Al-Masri suggests, in food and ambience, the many influences that have swept across the Nile delta: feta cheese and ólives from Greece, or a quasi-Indian onves from Greece, of a quasi-titular stew of peas and tomatoes, served with basmati rice. It's all pretty wonderful, and reasonably priced. (P.R., 2/00) 4031 Balboa (at 41st Ave.), S.F. 876-2300. Egyptian, D, S, AE/DS/MC/V.

Cafe Riggio will slake anyone's cravings

for classic Italian comfort food. Prices are moderate, service informal but attentive, the setting attractive in a well kept-up 1970s style. Two fine dishes: veal scallops, Milanese style, and the criminally rich brownie. (P.R., 2/00) 4112 Geary (at Fifth Ave.), S.F. 221-2114. Italian, D, \$, MC/V. Chapeau! serves some of the best food in the city — at shockingly reasonable prices. The French cooking reflects as much style and imagination as any Caliinuch style and imagination as any Can-fornia menu, and the service achieves an almost Masa's-like precision. (P.R., 10/98) 1408 Clement (at 15th Ave.), S.F. 750-9787. French, D, \$\$, AE/DC/MC/V. Clémentine offers comfortable sophistica-

tion at a fair price. The pain perdu—brioche French toast dusted with pow dered sugar and accompanied by apple compote and hazelnut ice cream — is one of those desserts that you'll remember eating 10 years later. Go for the free valet parking. (P.R., 3/99) 126 Clement (at Second Ave.), S.F. 387-0408. French, BR/D, \$\$, MC/V.

Dong Hue serves a Vietnamese menu un touched by California faddishness, Plenty of seafood, especially shrimp, is on offer, but there's lots of meat and poultry, too, including rich five-spice chicken. Clean, spare surroundings; very swift service. (P.R., 5/00) 2110 Clement (at 22nd Ave.) 221-1880. Vietnamese, L/D, ¢, MC/V Kitaro This Japanese restaurant, unlike many others, has a lot of options for vegmany others, has a lot of options for vegetarians. A hento box of crispy vegetarian tempura and a big platter of veggie sushi (including avocado, eggplant, pumpkin, and asparagus) will set you right up. (E.S., 12/97) 5850 Geary (at 22nd Ave.), S.F. 386-2777. Japanese, L/D, 4, MC/V. Mai's Restaurant On the basis of the hotored sour which proposed and-sour shrimp soup with pineapple alone, Mai's deserves a line out the door. (D.L., 3/97) 316 Clement (at Fourth Ave.), S.F. 221-3046. Vietnamese, L/D, \$\(\psi\$,

Mandalay Restaurant features reasonably priced Burmese food like fish chowder, mango chicken, and ginger salad. (D.l., 4/99) 4348 California (at Sixth Ave.), S.F 386-3896. Burmese, L/D, ¢, MC/V. **Natori** fulfills the dreams of those who crave sushi but can never get enough. Here it's all you can eat; you'll get enough. It's good, too, though not fancy. Plenty of other Asian dishes are on offer, from kimchee to pork-fried rice. (P.R., 4/00) 327 Balboa (at Fourth Ave.), S.F. 387-2565. Japanese, L/D, \$, AE/MC/V.

<u>listings</u>

Okina Sushi is resolutely discreet and oldfashioned, from the bamboo screens on lashioned, from the bamboo screens on the windows to the simple wood har at the back. Don't expect rolls with cute names; the star here is the fish, minimally adorned and pristine. (P.R., 9/98) 776 Arguello (at Cabrillo), S.F. 387-8882. Japanese, D, ¢. Pacific Cafe serves simple, reliable seafood in an atmosphere redolent of 1974, when it opened. Lots of dark wood and faintly psychedelic glass in the windows; free wine while you wait. (P.R., 10/98) 7000 Geary (at 34th Ave.), S.F. 387-7091. Seafood, D, \$\$, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V. Singapore Malaysian Restaurant eschews

Singapore Malaysian Restaurant eschews decor for cheap, tasty plates of Straits Chinese cooking, where you'll find flavors ranging from Indian to Dutch colonial to Thai. Seafood predominates in curries, soups, grills, and plenty of rice and noodle dishes. (S.R., 4/97) 836 Clement (at Seventh Ave.), S.F. 750-9518. Malaysian, I/D, 4, MC/V.

Straits Cafe has a slightly campy fauxtropical decor, but its Singaporean menu is a kaleidoscope of mingled satisfactions. A touch of Indian curry here, Thai co-conut milk and kaffir lime there; master the way to a dessert of rice pudding in palm sugar syrup. (P.R., 8/99) 3300 Geary (at Parker), S.F. 668-1783. Singaporean, L/D, \$\\$\ AE/DC/MC/V.

L/D, \$, AE/DC/MC/V.

Tawan's Thai Food It's tiny, it's cute, the prices are reasonable, and the food is tasty. Tom yum is right up there in the gold-star soup pantheon, and the silver noodle salad, skewered tofu in red curry, and eggplant with onions, chilies, and basil are all worth walking the length of Geary barefoot for. (S.R., 8/97) 4403
Geary (at Eighth Ave.), S.F. 751-5175.

Thai, L/D, \$, AE/DC/MC/V.

Thai Time proves that good things come in little packages. The place is tiny, and

That Hime proves that good things come in little packages. The place is tiny, and the food is tremendous, especially the hor mok talay, a seafood medley in coconut red-curry sauce cooked in a coconut shell. Even more familiar Thai standards are rendered with force and verve. (P.R., 9/00) 315 Eighth Ave. (at Clement), S.F. 831-3663. Thai, L/D, \$, AE/MC/V.

Traktir serves as a kind of town hall for the local Russian community, but the food

local Russian community, but the food has a distinct international flavor: dolma, feta-cheese salad, Georgian wine, curry spiked pieces of cold chicken. For tradi spiker pieces of cold clinken. For hard tionalists, there's borscht, vareniki, and salyanka, the famous soup of sausage and pickles. (P.R., 8/00) 4036 Balboa (at 36th Ave.), S.F. 386-9800. Russian, D, \$, MC/V.

Bayview, Hunters Point, and south

Cable Car Coffee Shop Atmospherically speaking, you're looking at your basic downtown South San Fran. old-style joint, one that serves a great Pacific Scramble for \$4.95 and the most per-fectest hash browns to be tasted. (D.L., 3/98) 423/2 Grand, South S.F. (650) 952-

9533. American, B/BR/L, ¢. Cliff's Bar-B-Q and Seafood Some things Cliff's got going for him: excellent mus tard greens, just drenched in flavorful-ness; and barbecued you-name-it. Brisket. Rib tips. Hot links. Pork ribs. Beef ribs. Baby backs. And then there're fried chickens and, by way of health food, fried fishes. (D.L., 2/98) 2177 Bayshore (at Blanken), S.F. 330-0736. Barbecue, L/

(at Blanken), S.F. 330-0/36. Barbecue, L/D, ¢, AE/DC/MC/V.

Gravy's Gravy calls himself the "Gumbo Specialist," and he might be right. It goes for \$5 or \$8, depending on how much you want — a lot, or a whole honkinduty lot — and it includes shell-and-all crab chunks, bone-and-all chicken parts, and sausage and stuff. (D.L., 10/97) 2511 Geneva (at Puehlo), Daly City. 337-9122.

JoAnn's Cafe and Pantry has gotten some word-of-mouth recommendations as a dive, but it serves upscale breakfasts with decidedly nondive sides like low-fat chicken basil sausage, bagels, and homemade muffins and scones. (D.L., 12/97) 1131 El Camino Real, South S.F. (650)

872-2810. American, B/L, \$.

Outback Cafe is located way down in with all them warehouses at the end of Revere

- 1. Awash in the madding crowd at Beach Chalet
- 2. MGD, 18-pack
- 3. Fresca, SRO
- 4. Tet celebration, Ana Mandara
- 5. Happy Doughnuts, 24th and Church

Street. I found the fare delectable. I got a double cheeseburger and a cup of soup. Don't let what I got fool you, though. This is gourmet stuff. (D.L., 7/94; Restaurant Poll winner, 1995) 1099C Revere (at Griffith), S.F. 822-8119. Café, B/L, ¢. **Peking Wok** is a great Chinese dive in Bayview, right smack on the way to Candlestick. Not counting the 18 special combos for \$3.25–\$4.50, there are 109 items on the Peking Wok menu. At least 101 of them are under five bucks. (D.L., 1/99) 4920 Third St. (at Palou), S.F. 822-818. Chinese, L/D, ¢.

the blender

Soo Fong features good inexpensive Chinese food. For the heat-seeking diner, its fiery Szechuan specialties will hit the spot. Nice chow fun and other hit the spot. Nice chow run and other noodle dishes, too. (Staff) Bayview Plaza, 3801 Third St. (at Evans), S.F. 285-2828. Chinese, L/D, ¢. Young's Cafe A restaurant full of cheap, big, decent Chinese food, Young's serves up 15 rice dishes, most of them \$2.95,

up 15 rice dishes, most of them \$2.95, and 64 other standard Chinese things. Only four of those are more than five bucks. (D.L., 12/97) 732 22nd St. (at Third St.) S.F. 285-6046. Chinese, L/D, \$\psi\$.

Berkeley, Emeryville, and north

Ajanta offers a variety of deftly seasoned regional dishes from the Asian subcontinent. The harmonious ambience is rounded off by attentive service, and everything benefits from unique flavors and elegant presentation. (D.R., 11/98) 1888 Solano, Berk. (510) 526-4373. Indian, L/D, \$, AE/ DC/DISC/MC/V.

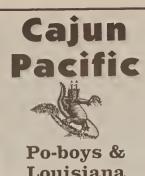
A La Carte features Nathan and Katherine Cheng's notion of home-cooked meals, ranging from such Creole-inspired fare as ranging from such Creole-inspired rare as chicken and andouille sausage gumbo to macaroni and cheese. Great side dishes and desserts, reasonable prices, and personalized service. (D.R., 1/99) 1453 Dwight (at Sacramento), Berk. (510) 548-2322. Creole, D, \$. MC/V. Bathroom not wheelchair accessible. **Anna's** is the rare place where the fare amia s is the rare place where the late serves the higher purpose of fostering community. Almost half the menu is dedi-cated to colorful and tasty salads, and any minor pitfalls are transcended by virtue of owner-singer Anna de Leon's homemade soups and the eclectic selection of desserts. (D.R., 3/98) 1801 University (at Grant), Berk. (510) 849-2662. Café, L/D, ¢, AE/

Breads of India and Gourmet Curries The menu changes every day, so nothing is re-frigerated overnight, and the curries bene fit from obvious loving care. The daily of-ferings include one lamb, one chicken, and two vegetarian curries, as well as one tandoori specialty. (D.R., 10/97) 2448 Sacramento (at Dwight), Berk. (510) 848-7684. Indian, L/D, ¢, MC/V.

Bobby's Backdoor Cajun BBQ has some of the hest and cheapest barbecue in the Bay Area. And as good as the BBQ is, the best thing about Bobby's is the atmosphere; live Cajun music and blues, dancing, and a Ping-Pong table. (D.L., 1/99) 12891 San Pablo, Richmond. (510) 232-9299. Barbecue, L/D, ¢. Café de la Paz Specialties include African-Brazilian "xim xim" curries, Venezuelan corn pancakes, garnachas de pollo, arepas, fried plantain, jalapeño cornbread, Ecuadoran stuffed potato cakes, grilled prawns, delicious black beans, and heav enly blackened seacakes served with or-ange-onion yogurt. (D.R., 10/98) 1600 Shattuck (at Cedar), Berk. (510) 843-0662. Latin American, BR/L/D, \$, AE/MC/V. Café La Peña nurtures the spirit as much as it pleases the palate. Such hearty main dishes as Chilean lamb stew and paella reflect

Continued on page 44





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listings

Eat Here Now

the kitchen's generosity more than its creativity with spices. (D.R., 6/98) 3105 Shattuck (near Prince), Berk. (510) 849-4846. atin American, D, \$, DC/MC/V.

Cafe Rouge All the red meat here comes from highly regarded Niman Ranch, and all charcuterieare made in-house. If the bittersweet chocolate torte is on the menu, order it. (S.R., 11/96) 1782 Fourth St. (at Hearst), Berk. (510) 525-1440. American, /D, \$\$, AE/MC/V.

Café Tululah makes a strong bid for the weekend brunch trade with special scram-bles, eggs Benedict, and an unusual corned beef hash. Excellent sandwiches, inventive salads, and simple pasta dishes highlight the lunch menu. (D.R., 4/99) 2512 San Pablo (near Dwight), Berk. (510) 548-4697. Café/California, BR/L, ¢.

César You'll be tempted to nibble for hours from Chez Panisse–related César's Spanrrom Chez Panisse-related Cesar's Spati-ish-inspired tapas — unless you can't get past the addictive sage-and-rosemary-flecked fried potatoes. (D.R., 8/98) 1515 Shattuck (near Vine), Berk. (510) 883-Spanish, D, \$, DISC/MC/V

Cha-Ya Everything chef-proprietor Atsushi Katsumata makes, from the potstickers and nigiri sushi to the steaming bowls of udon, hews to strict vegan standards. Don't miss the amazing things Katsumata does with tofu, whether deep-fried or topped with miso sauce in the dengaku. (D.R., 3/00) 1686 Shattuck (at Virginia), Berk. (510) 981-1213. Japanese Vegetarian, D, \$, MC/V. Chez Panisse is a marvel of the freshest ingredients paired with impeccable prepara-tion: downstairs in the subdued restaurant, a four-course prix-fixe dinner is offered; upstairs, in the boisterous café, a more casual menu is served à la carte. (Staff) 1517 Shattuck (at Cedar), Berk. Café, (510) 548-5049, L/D, \$\$; restaurant, (510) 548-5525, \$\$\$; California, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V.
Christopher's Café on Solano Stylishly exe

cuted fusion cuisine, often combining Asian, Southwestern, and Mediterranean ingredients in a single dish. Almost every unusual combination works, with generous helpings smoothly delivered in beautiful presentations. (D.R., 4/99) 1501A Solano (at Curtis), Albany. (510) 525-1668. Fusion, L/D, \$\$, AE/MC/V.

Christopher's Nothing Fancy Café Chicken,

consistence is nothing rainey date Chicken, heef, veggie, and prawn fajitas are the sizzling specialties. Big, thick quesadillas on chipotle tortillas, a peerless chile relleno, and exceptional fresh tomato and tomatillo salsas stand out on a menu of burritos, ensalsas stand out on a menu of burritos, en-chiladas, tacos, and tortilla soup. (D.R., 4/98) 1019 San Pablo (at Marin), Albany. (510) 526-1185. Mexican, L/D, \$, AE/MC/V. Clay Pot Seafood House specialties include steaming clay pots full of fascinating broths and such ingredients as meat balls, Chinese sausage, and whole fish. But just about anything on the prepulsit "myelic" about anything on the menu with "garlic,"
"Shanghai," or "braised" in the name is sure to float your boat. (D.R., 2/99) 809 San Pablo (near Solano), Albany. (510) 559-8976. Chinese, L/D, \$, DISC/MC/V. Holy Land transforms falafel, hummus, tahini, tabbouleh, and other Middle Eastern standards into gourmet-quality yet home style delights. There's also gracefully seasoned matzo ball soup, delicate schnitzel, spicy schwarma, and perfect wide-cut french fries. (D.R., 10/98) 2965 College (at Ashby), Berk. (510) 665-1672. Middle Eastern/

Kosher, L/D, \$, AE/DC/MC/V La. Bayou serves up an astounding array of authentic New Orleans staples, including jambalaya, red beans and rice, sausage or oyster po-boys, (greaseless!) fried catfish, and homemade pralines. (D.R., 2/99) 3278 Adeline (at Alcatraz), Berk. (510) 594-9302. Cajun/Creole, L/D, 4–\$, MC/V. Lalime's is a long-standing institution in East Bay haute cuisine culture, hut there's nothing institutional about the attentive service or the creative and gorgeous dishes Fixed-price dinners are available week nights along with an à la carte menu that changes monthly. (D.R., 4/00) 1329 Gilman (at Peralta), Berk. (510) 527-9838. French/Mediterranean, D, \$\$, AE/DC/MC/V. Locanda Olmo Fine versions of risotto, gnocchi, and soft polenta pie, terrific thin-crust pizzas, and good traditional desserts

have made Locanda Olmo a reliable anchor in the burgeoning Elmwood neighborhood. (D.R., 5/97) 2985 College (near Ashby), Berk. (510) 848-5544. Italian, D, \$,

Mazzini is a sophisticated, reasonably Mazzini is a sophisticated, reasonably priced winning combination — stylish, airy decor; smart, snappy service; and dinner dishes ranging from individual pizzas, rustic pasta, and suhlime risotto to special wood oven—cooked fish, lamb, pork, and beef specialties. (D.R., 12/98) 2826 Telegraph (near Oregon), Berk. (510) 848-5599. Italian, L/D, S—\$\$, MC/V. Minokichi Such dishes as zosui (rice por-

Minokichi Such dishes as zosui (rice porridge), hamachi nizakana (yellowtail and tofu with teriyaki sauce), and crisp, juicy hamachi kama shioyaki (salted and broiled yellowtail neck) set Minokichi far apart from your standard udon and tempura houses. (D.R., 1/00) 1403 Solano (at Carmel), Albany. (510) 559-9988. Japanese,

La Note Unique egg dishes and pancakes, big luncheon salads, fancy baguette sandwiches, and hearty weekend dinners. We found it nearly impossible to find fault with either the ratatouille with spicy merguez lamb sausage or the bow-tie noodles topped with grilled chicken breast strips. (D.R., 2/98) 2337 Shattuck (at Durant), Berk. (510) 843-1535. Country French, B/BR/L, \$\$, AE/MC/V. Rest rooms not wheel-

Odyssia Caffe and Bistro Don't miss the

legendary polenta fries, which come piping hot, dusted with Parmesan, and stacked like Lincoln Logs around a bowl of tomato-herb dipping sauce. (D.R., 7/97) 1849 Shattuck (at Hearst), Berk. (510) 849-1319. Mediterranean, B/BR/L/D, \$, MC/V. Rick and Ann's serves some of the best shoestring fries on earth, along with ex cellent (if nouvelle) renditions of such Americana as chili, macaroni and cheese meat loaf, and chicken pot pie baked under a cheddar cheese biscuit. (D.R. 11/96) 2922 Domingo (at Ashby), Berk (510) 649-8538. American, BR/L/D, \$, AE/MC/V.

Rivoli is a near perfect balance of the neighborhood eatery and the eclectic Cal-ifornia cuisine destination restaurant. Save room for superb grilled meats and fish, pasta, and risotto. (D.R.) 1539 Solano (between Neilson and Peralta), Berk. (510) 526-2542. California, D, \$, AE/DISC/MC/V.

Sam's Log Cabin Daily special egg scram-bles, great griddle cakes and corn cakes, and exceptional scones and muffins top the morning fare, which also includes gourmet sausage and bacon, hot and cold cereals, and organic coffee. (D.R., 8/99) 945 San Pablo Ave. (at Buchanan), Berk. (510) 558-0494. American, B/L, ¢, no

Santa Fe Bar and Grill Entrées include grilled stuffed chicken with butternut squash risotto and seared sea bass, and any meal that starts with a great Caesar salad is headed in the right direction, even if you know the tolls are going to be steep. (D.R., 3/98) 1310 University (between Acton and Bonar), Berk. (510) 841-4740. California/Mediterranean, BR/L/D, \$\$, AE/DISC/

VIK's Chaat Corner If you want a cheap and fantastic Indian lunch or dinner, brave the line at the back of VIK Distributors and treat yourself to a great deal. For less than the price of a scone and a latte, you can try lentil dumplings, curries, or a variety of flat or puffed crisp puris with various vegetarian fillings. (D.R., 12/96) 726 Allston Way, Berk. (510) 644-4412. Indian, L/D, ¢, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V.

Voulez-Vous distinguishes itself with its airy Parisian-café setting and a diversed trans of bout follows:

array of beautifully presented crepes and tarts. If those won't fill you up, you can start with one of the bountiful salads and finish up with one of the superb desserts. (D.R., 2/99) 2930 College (near Ashby), Berk. (510) 548-4708. French, L/D, \$-\$, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V.

Your Place If all they offered here was pad kra-prow — stir-fried chicken with basil and chili - Your Place would still be our Place forever. Venture away from typical Thai menu items toward neau yang num, laab gai, blackboard specials, and at lunch, the "boat noodles" soups. (D.R., 4/98)



listings

1267–71 University (at Bonar), Berk. (510) 548-9781. Thai, L/D, \$, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V. Not wheelchair accessible. **Zachary's Chicago Pizza** The stuffed pizza is simply out of this world — try the Zachary's special sometime. The fact that both special sometime. The fact that both Zachary's outlets are always busy speaks for itself. (Staff) 1853 Solano (at Fresno), Berk. (510) 525-5950; 5801 College (at Oak Grove), Berk. (510) 655-6385. Pizza, L/D, \$, AE/MC/V.

Oakland and Alameda

Alta Mar is a Veracruz-style seafood spot. Camerones al mojo de ajo are butterflied and humming with garlic, while pescado frito lived up to the hype, (D.R., 3/97) 1060 E. 12th St. (at 11th Ave.), Oakl. (510) 893-5122. Mexican, L/D, \$, AE/DC/MC/V.

Arizmendi is a worker-owned bakery where bread rolls out in seemingly infinite varieties — potato, Asiago, sesame-sunflower. The pièce de résistance is the daily thin-crust, tomato sauce-free, vegetarian pizza. (D.R., 1/99) 3265 Lakeshore (at Mandana), Oakl. (510) 268-8849. Bakery, B/L/D, ¢. Not wheelhair accessible

Asena Restaurant Good dishes at Asena, a charming Med/Cal cuisine spot, include indi-vidual pizzas, and grilled marinated lamb sirloin in a burgundy-rosemary demi-glace (D.R., 2/98) 2508 Santa Clara (at Park),

(D.R., 2796) 2506 Santa Chard (at Park),
Alameda. (510) 521-4100. California/
Mediterranean, L/D, \$\$, AE/MC/V.
Autumn Moon Cafe Enter this happy, happening spot near Lake Merritt and you'll feel like you've been welcomed into a big, friendly dinner party. The menu includes baked po lenta and grilled lamb chops, and for break fast, taco scramble and blintzes. (S.R., 11/97) 3909 Grand (at Sunny Slope), Oakl. (510) 595-3200. California, B/BR/L/D, \$, MC/V.

Le Cheval Shrimp rolls and peanut sauce, the fried Dungeness crab, the marinated "orange flavor" beef, the buttery lemon-grass prawns — it's all fabulous. (Staff) 1007 Clay (at 10th St.), Oakl. (510) 763-8495. Vietnamese, L/D,

Garibaldi's on College focuses on Mediterranean-style seafood, from tantalizing apperanear-style scarood, from tantaning appetizers (baked oysters, scallop ceviche) to perfectly done entrées (grilled swordfish, spaghetti with scallops and prawns). (D.R., 9/97) 5356 College (near Manilla), Oakl. (510) 595-4000. Mediterranean, L/D, \$\$, AE/

Gerardo's Mexican Restaurant offers all the expected taquería fare plus breakfast and dinner platters - huevos rancheros, fajitas, camarones a la plancha, pescado dorado. But a main reason to visit this humble storefront is to pick up a dozen of Maria's wonderfully down-home chicken or pork tamales. (D.R., 3/99) 3811 MacArthur (near 35th Ave.), Oakl. (510) 531-5255. Mexican, B/L/D, ¢-\$. Giglio combines a lively yet intimate café atmosphere with moderately priced thin-crust pizzas and wines, hearty pastas, and soups. (D.R., 9/98) 5427 College (at Kales), Oakl. (510) 594-0798. Italian, L/D, \$, AE/MC/V. Not wheelchair accessible

Kandahar Chef-owner Daud Zaheer invests his Afghan lamb, chicken, and vegetarian dishes with big-time love and attention and presents them beautifully at bargain prices. (D.R., 11/99) 2118 Mount Diablo Blvd. (at Pacheco), Concord. (925) 676-2243. Afghan,

Mama's Royal Cafe Breakfast is the draw here — even just-coffee-for-me types might succumb when confronted with waffles, French toast, pancakes, tofu scramble, huevos rancheros, and 20 different omelettes. (S.R., 5/98) 4012 Broadway (at 40th St.), Oakl. (510) 547-7600. American,

Nan Yang offers too many great dishes — ginger salad, spicy fried potato cakes, coconut chicken noodle soup, garlic noodles, succulent lamb curry that melts in your mouth to experience in one visit. (D.R.) 6048 College (at Claremont), Oakl. (510) 655-3298.
Burmese, L/D, \$, MC/V.

Ninna You'll find steaks, duck breast, and pork loin on the same menu as chicken in yellow curry, as well as such intriguing and successful fusions as penne pasta "pad Thai" style and veal "Ithaila." (D.R., 2/00) 4066 Piedmont (between 40th and 41st Sts.), Oakl. (510) 601-6441. Thai Fusion, L/D, \$-

Oakland Grill remains a cornerstone of Oakland's produce district, offering breakfasts, lunches, and dinners that fall somewhere between hearty blue-collar staples (steaks, pork chops, burgers) and middlebrow gourmet fare (blackened fish, pasta primavera, crepes) (D.R., 6/98) 301 Franklin (at Third St.), Oakl (510) 835-1176. American, B/BR/L/D, \$-\$\$, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V.

Organic Café and Macrobiotic Grocery This down-home animal flesh-free zone proves that lentils, pinto beans, garbanzos, and greens have plenty of flavor, as well as nutrition, when they're prepared with loving care by the Organic Cafe's rotating crew of cooks. (D.R., 11/98) 1050 40th St. (at Adeline), Oakl. (510) 653-6510. Rest room not wheelchair accessible. Vegetarian, BR/L/D, \$, AE/DISC/MC/V. Original Kasper's Hot Oogs Occupying the same tiny triangle building since 1947, Harry Yaglijian's humble and supremely hospitable little stand has one item on the menu — the best hot dog in town. (D.R., 5/98) 4521 Telegraph (at Shattuck), Oakl. (510) 655-3215. American, L/D, ¢.

Il Porcellino When faced with a menu like 11 Porcellino's, which taunts the hungry diner with pumpkin and ricotta manicotti, sword-fish and shrimp ravioli, polenta with meat-balls, and leg of lamb filled with ricotta and mint, any concern for health benefits should take a backseat to hedonism. (D.R., 6/97) 6111 LaSalle (at Moraga), Oakl. (510) 339-2149. Italian, L/D, \$, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V. Restaurante Ooña Tomás offers upscale versions of enchiladas (wild mushroom, zucchini, and goat cheese) and carnitas (Niman Ranch pork), as well as tantalizing chicken-lime cilantro soup and bountiful pozole. (D.R., 10/99) 5004 Telegraph (near 51st St.), Oakl. (510) 450-0522. Mexican, BR/D, \$, AE/MC/V. Rockridge Café offers at least three good reasons not to eat hamburgers: bountiful break-fasts, a savory meat loaf special, and hearty, unpretentious Acadian cassoulet. But the ar-chetypal hand-crafted burgers, wide-cut fries, and creamy, straw-clogging milkshakes remain the cornerstones of the menu. (D.R., 12/98) 5492 College (at Forest), Oakl. (510) 653-1567. American, B/L/D, \$, MC/V.
Sergio's Trattoria Servings are large and pre-

sented with no pretense; standards include plates of spaghetti alla Siciliana, carrettiera, puttanesca, or con polpettine (meatballs). (D.R., 1/98) 5299 College (at Bryant), Oakl. 510) 655-2869. Italian, D, \$\$, MC/V

Sophie's offers a limited, occasionally changing menu of nouvelle French-inspired dishes, from pork tenderloin and duck à l'orange to ginger-soy sea bass and Swiss chard ravioli. A good wine list and exceptional starters (seafood beignets) and desserts (classic (seatood beignets) and desserts (classic chocolate mousse, almond bread pudding) round off a completely satisfying experience. (D.R., 3/00) 4228 Park Blvd. (at Wellington), Oakl. (510) 482-5303. French, D, \$\$, MC/V. Taqueria Ramiro and Sons typically has customers lined up to the door for (mostly takeout) burritos and tacos and quesadillas. The menu nods to contemporary tastes with black beans and spinach or tomato tortilla options. (D.R., 12/99) 2321 Alameda (at Park), Alameda. (510) 523-5071. Mexican, L/ ¢, no credit cards

Tijuana serves big round bowls and plates teeming with shrimp, crab, octopus, and fish — in cocktails, salads, and soups. The place is usually packed and loud, but friendly servers, good salsa, and Mexican beer at \$2.50 a pop more than compensate for the noise. (D.R., 3/98) 1308 International Blvd. (at 13th Ave.), Oakl. (510) 532-5575. Mexican, L/D, \$, MC/ V. Not wheelchair accessible.

Tropix After a hunk of warm cornbread slathered in mango chutney, dig into a heap of spicy grilled jerk chicken, or wallow in the wonders of the shrimp pawpaw: curried vegetables and fat shrimp piled up over meltingly ripe papaya. (S.R., 5/98) 3814 Piedmont (at W. MacArthur), Oakl. (510) 653-2444.

Caribbean, L/D, \$, AE/DC/MC/V, Patio not wheelchair accessible.

Veronica's Regulars fill up the 23 seats for the daily specials of corned beef and cabbage or the spicy Friday barbecue, as well as huge por-tions of "gramma's" meat loaf, "Louisiana style" catfish, "Moon Shiner's mustard glazed" baked ham, and the few concessions to nou-velle tastes, like the chipotle chicken salad and portabello mushroom sandwiches. (D.R., 2/00) 1601 San Pablo (at 16th St.), Oakl. (510) 834-7161. American, L/D, ¢, DC/V/MC. *



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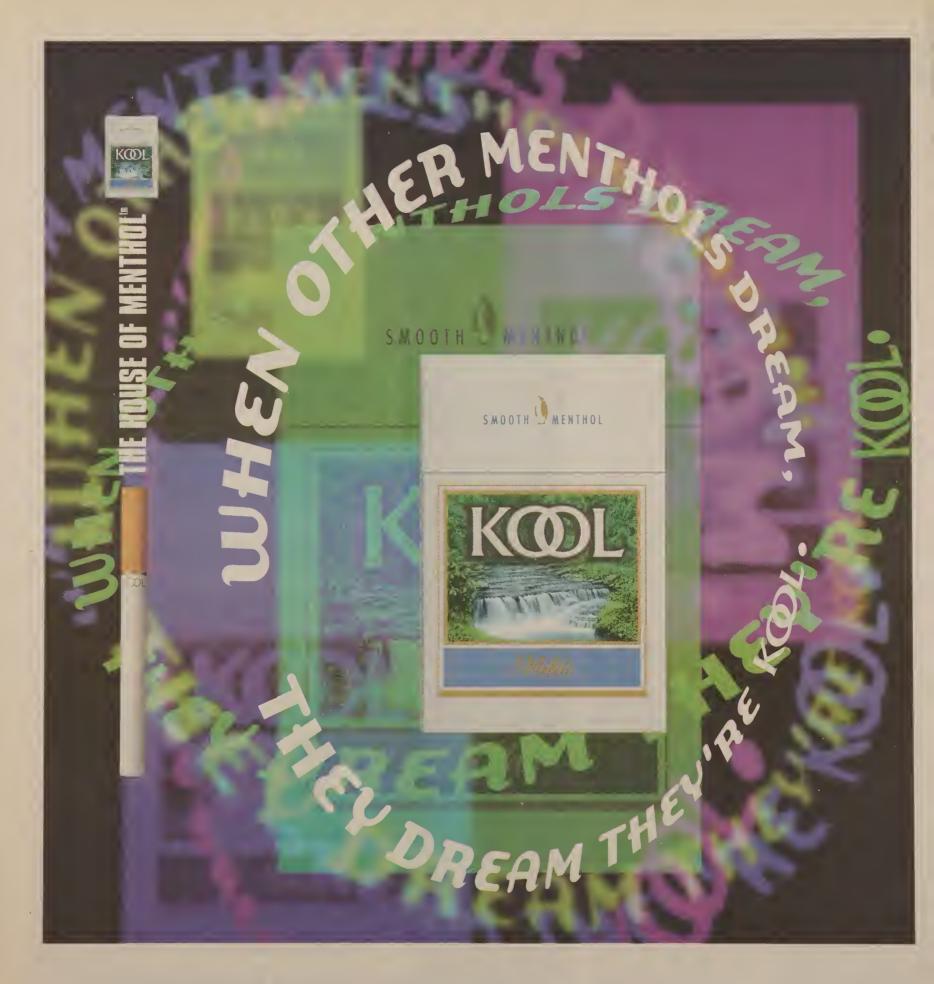


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Class war

Battle Royale's murderous teenagers are civilization's last hope. Bv Alvin Lu

tend to agree with Marilyn Manson: the previous Bush administration brought us the rise of N.W.A. and the Geto Boys and culminated in multiplatinum albums that could be called The Chronic and Doggystyle with no one blinking. For the eight years we had a Democrat in the office, American teenagers had nothing to live for. Here's hoping, with America's reversion to dynastic feudal monarchy, we have some real sex and violence in our pop culture again.

Meanwhile, in Japan, where they have long had, and continue to have, a dynastic feudal monarchy, they are - as we've become accustomed to in matters pop cultural - far ahead of the game.

Why is this? It's a long-held belief that Japan's is a culture of paradox: a society that enforces mediocrity, blandness, placidity, and consensus somehow manages to produce the world's weirdest and most perverse pop culture.

But it's not a paradox, really. Individualism breeds banality: American pop culture. Collectivism generates true, baroque insanity: Japanese pop culture.

And the latest gem to emerge from this ceaseless cesspool of manga, anime, idol singers, TV drama, and video games is Kinji Fukasaku's Battle Royale, a magisterial teen-death movie that is the 21st-century mutant offspring of Pokémon, Survivor, and Heathers-Columbine.

Take a class of 42 ninth graders (whose teacher is Beat Takeshi — as in 'beat down," naturally), lock unremovable explosive neck bands on them, transport them to a desolate island, randomly distribute supplies and weapons of varying usefulness and firepower to them, and force them to kill one another until one survivor is left standing.

Throw in a good smattering of cute teen idols as your cast, and you've got what you really wanted Battle of the

Network Stars to be. At least in Asia it's been the answer to domestic cinematic doldrums: Battle Royale, fueled by denouncements from Japan's appalled politicians and PTA members, was the biggest movie hit in Japan this winter. And while we catch up with Wong Kar-wai in In the Mood for Love, Battle is cleaning up at the box office in Hong Kong.

I was able to see Battle Royale at the Egyptian Theater in Hollywood, when it played for one night as the opening film of a two-week Fukasaku retrospective sponsored by the American Cinematheque last month. For a soulserious archival outfit like the Cinematheque, the atmosphere was glitzy. Helped by a front-page Los Angeles Times story on the controversy around the film, tickets for the screening in the 600-seat theater had sold out more than a week in advance, and a host of luminaries (well, sort of does the current director of the Power Rangers TV show count?) were in the audience, headed by none other than the Street Fighter himself, Sonny Chiba. Director Fukasaku, a living legend in his own right, was in attendance as well to introduce the film.

Still, despite this reception and the enjoyment of an admittedly sympathetic audience, it seems unlikely that Battle Royale will ever make it in America and at this time it has no American distributor. Beyond the usual exigencies of subtitled film distribution here, there is the sensitive matter of whether American audiences have the stomach anymore for this kind of refined fare.

Perhaps they don't in Japan, either. Critics attribute Battle Royale's boxoffice success not to its qualities as a film or its marketing campaign, but to the Japanese parliamentarians and PTA activists who, on the floor of the Diet, loudly lobbied to have the film banned. Although arsenal-armed school massacres have not occurred there (or been

planned much — maybe because it's hard to get guns there, eh?), Japan has been plagued by a rash of high-profile teen murderers. With the specter of these often very weird and senseless crimes looming in the air, the timing of the release of a film like Battle Royale could not have been worse - or better.

In scenes reminiscent of recent entertainment-industry hearings in the United States, some Japanese politicians, à la Sen. Joe Lieberman, advocated government media intervention. For its part, the Japanese ratings board asked the studio to cut some scenes, including:

- The scene where the teacher (Beat Takeshi) throws a knife into a female student's forehead
- The scene where a necklace tied to a male student's neck explodes
- The scene where blood gushes out of a female student's throat cut by a scythe
- The scene where a dying female student is torn apart by a full-automatic machine gun's bullets
- The scene where a male student's decapitated head with a grenade in its mouth is used as a weapon

Fukasaku's refusal to remove any of these scenes won the film a rare R-15 rating, which meant that no one under 15 was to be admitted - a blow, considering the average age of the film's target audience. Fukasaku's public response was to exhort the nation's youth to look deep inside themselves, test their resourcefulness, and find a way to sneak into the theater: "I hope you have enough guts and wits to make it in!" he said.

And the film itself? It's great — the new millennium's most important work — if you think gorgeously crafted two-dimensional video-game nihilism is the way to go. But perhaps, as with Pokémon, it's anachronistic to think of it as an isolated work. Battle Royale, after all, is also a novel (which started it

all), a comic book, cool Lego-like action figures, T-shirts, belt buckles, wristwatches, a board game, phone cards, and commemorative handgun-lighters.

Seen in a larger context, then, Battle Royale can also be a moving, emotionally resonant experience, powered by the strength of its characters — if you don't mind characterization by means of collector mentality. One barely gets a sense of most of the 42 students' motivations and back stories before they're a dead statistic. But that's only if you don't recognize how each of them inhabits an instantly identifiable type: the good girl, the bad girl, the big brother, the loner, the fat kid, the rebel, the creep, the psychopath, etc. The most popular of Battle Royale's characters now have their own fan sites, where their backgrounds are more fully fleshed out, and fans can fill in the blanks of their adventures where novel and film did not go into great enough detail.

And, finally, it might all just be reduced to bloody teenybopper nonsense if one didn't take into account that the mastermind behind all this is 70-yearold Kinji Fukasaku. Known mainly for his work in the 1960s and '70s, when he directed some of the greatest gangster films ever made, Fukasaku, who has only worked intermittently in the past two decades, seems suddenly to be making a very late return to form. Not just as a filmmaker but as, true to his history, a troublemaker.

When I had a chance to interview him in Los Angeles, Fukasaku, a veteran of the generational conflict of the '60s, said, "This reaction was exactly what I had in mind when we depicted this kind of confrontation between adults and young people. And the politicians, officials, and PTA all just got themselves caught in the snare."

"In making this film, I tried to put myself at the level of these kids who were 15 years of age," he said. "I was 15 in 1945. That was still before the end of the war, and then the war ended, and Japan collapsed. During the making of Battle Royale, I was seeing myself as a 15-year-old. I continued to talk to those 15-year-olds, telling them that the war was different from this kind of game. I talked to those kids who were interested in hearing me relate my experiences. I related my experiences to facilitate communication between myself and these young actors. This is not the kind of game where you manipulate machines, can have all sorts of choices, and hit the Reset button to start all over. No, this is the kind of game where you have to act yourself in the game, you have to live through this game. It was in that context that I talked about my war experience."

Battle Royale, with its allegory of the exigencies of global competition, is the most coherent manifesto the new generation in Japan has got. And for a craggy old guy working with some of the freshest-faced young things in the biz, Fukasaku seems to think that there might be hope yet.

There are dark days ahead. Will America's kids be able to have their own Battle Royale? 🌣

Much thanks to Tomo Machiyama and Patrick Macias, who contributed research to this article.





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Tech-Mex

efore us we saw many cities and towns. ... We were wonderstruck, and we said that what lay before us was like the enchantments related in the legend of Amadis. ... There is much to ponder in it that I know not how to tell: witnessing things never heard, nor seen, nor even dreamed." These words belong to Spanish explorer and chronicler Bernal Díaz del Castillo, and they were written in 1520, after Spain had landed in the Valley of Mexico.

They were his response to what he could not believe his European eyes were seeing: a New World civilization with enough homegrown technology to build pyramids of geometry and stone that lifted the earth closer to the sky.

Cut and paste Castillo's astonishment into the present, and it's a first-world commentary on the third world that is rarely heard, the first world marveling at the technological sophistication of the very folks it's supposed to school, the pre-conquista equivalent of bringing typewriters to a people who were already rocking G4s.

But the Spaniards took the Aztecs out, and what's endured over the centuries is a colonial residue that continues to see Mexico through the opposite lens, as a country hopelessly resistant to modernity, a place where poverty, corruption, moral shiftlessness, and mañana antiwork ethics reign - "Hecho en Mexico," shorthand for "it's gonna



break." Of course, underneath the radar of all this misrepresentation is an entirely different Mexico, a low-tech meets high-tech history of tradition getting hotwired and reconfigured within the circuits of advanced information technologies.

Celebrating this Mexico — electro-Mexico, digi-Mexico — is at the core of Nortec, a new multimedia artistic movement based in Tijuana that centers on a collective of DJs, musicians, architects, fashion designers, visual artists, and theorists who use digital technology to fuse all things locally norteno with all things globally techno. There have been Nortec art shows, fashion shows, and architecture installations, but the heart of Nortec is the music it's been releasing on its Mil Records label: samples of old banda and norteño albums fed into Mac editing software and then recombined over ambient synth washes and icy beat patterns.

Two years in the making, The Tijuana Sessions Vol. 1 (Palm) is the first complete Nortec mission statement, 14 cuts of bordertronic hybrids where banda's burping tubas and machine-gun quick snare rolls put drum 'n' bass on Revolución Avenue and norteño's accordions and guitar strums dress acid jazz bohemianism in urban ranchero Stetson hats and tassels. It is, to paraphrase one Day-Glo Nortec design slogan, gun-slinging narco-corrido king Chalino Sanchez reborn as a postmodern original gangsta.

Bringing new technology to bear on traditional Mexican culture certainly isn't a Nortec invention. But what Nortec adds to the tech-Mex equation is an aesthetic philosophy that views making music out of the North and South as a necessary means of making a better life for a world that exists between the two. As Pepe Mogt, one of Nortec's principal ideologues, has put it, "We had to register hundreds of hours in front of the radio searching for sound waves from the north that would take us away from everything we were not or did not want

It is this "fourth world" of the border that Nortec architect Raul Cardenas explores in his art laboratory-clothing company Torolab. Visit his elegantly designed site (www.torolab.com), and you'll see that Cardenas takes Nortec's audio collisions and turns them into architectural blueprints, installation sculptures, tools for art education, and theories for better living through border technology: "wearing phenomenoscopic goggles, driving the improbability engine, reinventing pretext." Enrique and Joselo Rangel of Mexico City art rock band Cafe Tacuba are Torolab associates, as is Enrique Jimenez, a.k.a. Ejival, a Tijuana writer and DJ and the founder of Nimboestatic, the electronica label responsible for last year's lush La tejedora de nubes compilation that is dedicated, in his words, "to returning beautiful sound to the sad land of this nation."

The most refreshing part about Torolab is that along with all of its sophisticated design innovation, theoretical manifestos, digital audio Nortec loops, and badass T-shirt logos, it is also about teaching — new-school pedagogia. More than its music, then, Nortec's greatest legacy as an art movement will be how well it puts its ideas about technology and border culture — about utilitarian art that can transform the worlds we are given into worlds we want to live in — into the hands of a new generation of artists and DJs, so that they too can come up with things never heard nor seen nor even dreamed. ❖



nb and bummer

Saving Silverman can't even rescue itself. By Dennis Harvey

ith Bush 2 having usurped the throne, there's little doubt that youth violence, uncloseted sexiness, and the liberal impulse in general will be blamed on Hollywood, that satanic third party famous for its telekinetic ability to pull real-life triggers in 10-year-old hands and so forth. What's an entertainment industry to do?

Just what it's always done: snivel, lay low, count money, and hope this morality fad blows over soon.

Besides, Hollywood is itself an old hand at the blame game, which can usefully be applied to everything from creative bookkeeping to the public's occasional disinclination for rolling over and playing dumb. When the latter happens, more often than not the low box-office numbers induce wild finger-pointing toward any cause - wrong advertising, wrong opening weekend, wrong moon over Uranus — but the obvious one. There must be a stone tablet in a studio vault somewhere that reads, "Never, ever admit the product just might be crap."

This logic works overtime when it comes to sussing out the shifting moods of the youth demographic, a cash cow that never gets so much attention as when it kicks over the milking bucket. One trade paper recently pondered the underperformance of too many cookiecutter teen pix. It arrived at the whut-R-U-gonna-dű conclusion that dang, these kids be fickle. Oh really? As if your average 14-year-old can't imagine better things to do than lay pocket money on the likes of Loser, Little Nicky, or the 567th Freddie Prinze Jr. vehicle.

Providing good reason to check out PCP, unprotected sex, or even homework instead this weekend is Saving Silverman, the latest comedy hell-bent on making Dumb and Dumber seem

like a classic. The diff between oldschool Porky's teensploitation and the post-Farrelly brothers kind is dumb versus faux dumb. Needless to say, it's harder to be stoopid-smart than it is to be Bikini Academy 5. Hardest of all to bear, however, is actual stupidity posing as auto-delighted cleverness. That can suck the air right out of a room, in much the same way that Madonna's landed-gentry accent makes life itself seem that much more embarrassing.

Boring, almost-cute Jason Biggs (American Pie, Loser) plays the titular Darren S., who needs "saving" because his new girlfriend, Judith (Amanda Peet), is the personification of feminine evil: gorgeous, bossy, neat, overemployed, inclined toward blouses that require mammary-taping à la Jennifer Lopez ... and she won't even put out! In other words, a slut, a bitch, and a tease. Ah women: so much better when they fold out from the middle of a magazine.

Whipped within an inch of sanity, Darren requires rescue from his newly girlfriend-banned best buds, beerbonging J.D. (Jack Black) and Wayne (Steve Zahn). They arrange Judith's "death" (kidnapping), hoping to divert Silverman's hormones toward resurfaced childhood love Sandy (Amanda Detmer) before she gets married to Jesus Christ. (One of the few funny ídeas here is dressing a novice nun-tobe in a miniskirted "habit" and a bullet bra.) She's blond, she's ditzy, she's a virgin eager to be had. In short, perfection.

Saving Silverman strains for a wackiness that evokes (as well as deploys) groin injury. You'll laugh, you'll cry, you'll moan in pain. Ethnic stereotypes are served up to party like it's 1939; potentíal homohood is, like, hilaríously gross; díalogue runs from ohmigawd "outrageous" (e.g., "This dead chick is

really stacked!") to dude, dude, a thousand times dude.

As Biggs's peer pals (never mind that the actors are 10 years his senior), normally most-excellent Zahn and Black prove that no amount of talent can stop beached fish from flapping in vain. Scripted by two unknowns, the movie smacks any giddy dum-dum potential unconscious in the hands of director Dennis Dugan, a 55-year-old "specialist" in youth-skewed übercrap (Beverly Hills Ninja, Big Daddy, not to mention episodes of Love Boat: The Next Wave and Shasta McNasty).

Sealing all excruciating pseudohipness for keeps is the use of semicamp love god Neil Diamond as the boy trio's inspirational Holy Grail. In his first bigscreen appearance since 1980's infamous Jazz Singer remake, Neil doesn't seem to grok that the movie is making fun of him. What truly humiliates, though, is that even this easy target goes missed: retrokítsch íronics are waaay too thinksome for Dugan and Co. to bring off.

Over its closing credits, Silverman's actors line dance to Neil D. live!, with the latter's asinine lyrics printed onscreen for the benefit of audiences presumably no longer able to hold back that karaoke urge. Of course, the target demographic (12-year-old aspiring Hooter's customers) will probably still be wondering just who this old singer guy is. Even actual Diamondheads are likely to be weighing Zoloft versus Prozac by this point. Of all the desperate ploys a movie can pull, fake spontaneous abandon must be the saddest one ever. 💠

'Saving Silverman' opens Fri/9 at Bay Area theaters. See Movie Clock, page 101, for show times.

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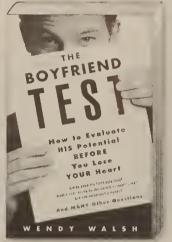
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Star power: Tori Hinkle plays the title role in Last Planet Theatre's production of Josephine the Mouse-Singer, in which a tribe of no-nonsense mice are strangely affected by a prima donna among them.

Mousey

McClure's Kafka-inspired Josephine the Mouse-Singer struggles to ignite. By Brad Rosenstein

ichael McClure's 1978 Obie Award-winning play Josephine the Mouse-Singer is inspired by Franz Kafka's last tale, a witty parable of the artist (and perhaps the Jew) as the perennial outsider in a harsh, uncomprehending world. This newly envisioned production by Last Planet Theatre (with the support of California College of Arts and Crafts, which commissioned an original score from Terry Riley) would seem right up the alley of the intrepid folks who brought us the Wallace Shawn Theatre Festival.

Kafka's story is narrated by a discriminating mouse observer who attempts to explain the peculiar hold that Josephine's undistinguished piping has on his people, the hardworking, fearful, prolific mouse folk who ordinarily show little sensitivity to art. He attributes the allure primarily to Josephine's defiantly un-mousey prima donna behavior and the fact that her songs give the tribe a space in which to dream.

McClure extrapolates from several facets of the fable, positing an image of the artist as outlaw that recurs throughout his work: his Josephine (Tori Hinkle) is an icy diva, a selfabsorbed but self-sacrificing artist who will give everything to receive discerning recognition of her greatness — and a dispensation to be free from the grind of daily labor. But where Kafka's story displays his own ambivalence about whether artists are special beings or merely disruptive, and McClure's play tries to develop that complexity by showing the unsettling effects the artist has on her audience, this production is too muted to make much of a case either way.

Director John Wilkins discovers some much needed discipline and focus, but he also loses some exuberance, and on opening night the performance felt sluggish and mistimed. The show's greatest successes are visual: designer Christo Braun's curtains and screens, a wonderful sequence with the mice dismantling an enormous cake, and clever costumes by Tessa O'Donnell, Jenny Petersen, and Horace Ray. Wilkins and choreographer Teresa Sullivan revel in their uneven 17-member cast, and at times (particularly with a chorus of ghostly mice) their suggestive movement

Riley's score is lovely, a rich fusion of international elements and old-

world flourishes, but it never registers with the dramatic impact it should. Ironically, this play in which song is the central metaphor runs into a number of acoustic problems in the cavernous SomArts space. Hinkle works hard as Josephine, but she doesn't quite have the bravura presence to make this superstar compelling; Kathryn Wood (as that inescapable Kafka character the Judge) gives the most accomplished, compelling performance. The Judge's insistence that artists' conformity will assure that they are loved "like every one else" is a disturbing proposition on many levels. But perhaps even more so is the contention that the finest art is doomed to fall on deaf ears — even supersensitive mouse ears may miss it.

Redemption

In the opening moments of Mark O'Rowe's Howie the Rookie, you feel a whisper of panic run through the audience: no one understands a single word that is being spoken onstage. But Aidan Kelly, playing the Howie, a tough but affable Irish kid, seems so assured that you stay with it. And soon, as if by magic, O'Rowe's rollicking dialect, a dense, stylized Dublin street argot, begins to feel like your mother tongue.

That remarkable language is the primary joy of O'Rowe's deceptively simple play: two monologues delivered by the Howie and the Rookie (Karl Shiels) that interweave to tell both a tale of Irish underworld skullduggery and a mock heroic epic of empty lives redeemed by honor and grace. O'Rowe's language, a present-tense stream of consciousness riddled with epithets, philosophies, and crystalline description, cooks like a methed-up mix of James Joyce and Jim Thompson. The story those words tell is appalling and funny, and the narrative proceeds breathlessly.

The Magic Theatre, together with New York's P.S. 122, has imported the play's original Bush Theatre production from London, and it was a wise move. It would be hard to imagine anyone seizing on the souls of these two characters better than Kelly and Shiels. Subtly artful director Mike Bradwell lets them rip in front of Es Devlin's abstract backdrop of gray walls and a bloody strip of road oppressing a patch of grass. The show's boundless energy and vivid storytelling are so compelling that the actors occasionally seem to disappear, painting an action movie inside our heads that builds to a tragic, redemptive conclusion. &

'Josephine the Mouse-Singer.'

Through Feb. 25. Thurs.-Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 7 p.m., SomArts Theater, 934 Brannan, S.F. \$12-\$20. (510) 845-2687.

'Howie the Rookie.' Through March 4. Wed.-Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 2:30 p.m., Magic Theatre, Fort Mason Center, Bldg. D, Marina at Laguna, S.F. \$8-\$30. (415) 441-8822.

Four walls

Sasha Waltz's dancers rage against the routine. By Rita Felciano

ne of the good things about visiting artists is that they throw light on what's going on locally. They keep us from becoming smug with self-importance in what can be such a small pond. Getting a new perspective on how dancers in other parts of the globe deal with movement vocabulary, time, space, and subject matter can be a trip. And Sasha Waltz, the German dance-theater maker whose company last weekend played Zellerbach Hall, took us on one.

Waltz knows exactly what she wants, and she has the chops to realize it. Extraordinarily skillful in assembling her parts — movement, video, and music — she makes Allee der Kosmonauten (Avenue of the

Cosmonauts), at just a little bit more than an hour, run like greased lightning. Its constituent parts hook into one another for a hilarious yet ultimately empty look at the proverbial dysfunctional family. At the end we have learned little about these people that we didn't know 10 seconds after they popped up onstage. They are caught in situations from which there is no exit, and you end up laughing at these "cripples" the way you would in a Jerry Lewis movie.

The choreographer based Allee on research she had done in one of those impersonal, dehumanized-looking housing projects that were built too fast and too poorly in many eastern European cities. Allee der Kosmonauten is, of course, a highly ironic address for such threadbare and minimally habitable housing. Still, she could have saved herself a lot of trouble. Dysfunctional families also live and struggle aimlessly in horizontal housing projects, better known as suburbs. And petit bourgeois, one-way, stuck-in-the-mud thinking is by no

means restricted to socialist countries. Waltz's family consists of parents, a son and his girlfriend, a nubile daughter, and a younger son, and the whole piece takes place within the confines of their living room, dominated by a sofa that is at once a battleground, an island of calm, and a place to lie. The sofa is supposed to give comfort and privacy within cramped quarters. (The award-winning film version of this piece much better catches the sense of claustrophobia among people confined to a small space). Not much happens in this family as its members fight over the newspaper, a space on

the sofa, the music they listen to. Above all, they go through the motion of living; just getting through the day is enough. And this Waltz's performers portray magnificently. Like puppets or automatons they stalk, waddle, and fall over one another and the furniture. Every once in a while, as if turned by a switch, they explode into rage, against one another, against the furniture, beating their bodies and fists against the concrete walls that keep them captive. At one point they ticktock back and forth like oldfashioned pendulum clocks. Elliot Caplan's admirable videos suggest a life outside the confines of these four walls — though if one looks closely, it's inhabited by people just like those in this apartment.



Much of Waltz's vocabulary and her use of props are elaborations on the physical comedy of early Hollywood, from the Keystone Kops to Buster Keaton. (Europeans love to deride the pernicious influence of America's popular culture on them, but boy, do they love its movies.) The improv and release-based choreography is beautifully detailed from the first nervous ticks that sends the son off his perch in the opening image to the heel-clicking women on their backs, and that wonderful slump into which the father sinks. Often an imaginary current sends these characters into ever more convulsive but perfectly synchronized twitches and wooden puppet gestures, only to explode into realistic fistfights. Except for periodic gestures of trying to change the situation — a hug that lasts, a hilarious attempt at decorating, the mundanity of folding clothes and vacuuming, the father's pathetic accordion playing and a family dance — one is left with a sense that the only way out of this catatonic existence is through violence. &















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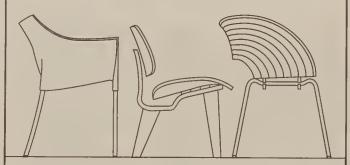
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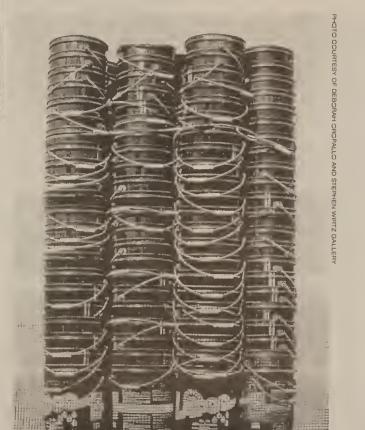
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Her bucket runneth over: Deborah Oropallo explores computer-enhanced photographs with her new collection.

Harmful if swallowed

Deborah Oropallo plays with form and photographs contents in an industrial-strength show.

By Glen Helfand

eborah Oropallo's work invariably strikes a delicate, provocative balance between formal artistic issues and everyday anxieties. Even when she depicts plain old household items, they take on a curious beauty that's as much a pleasing visual as a telling, often ominous reconfiguration of things we know all too well. Isolated and repeated on vast grounds of canvas, things like recycled-tire doormats seem to be dense barriers, the glowing concentric coils of an electric stove become patterns that are too hot to handle, and the imprint of an iron left too long on a shirt is a kind of Shroud of Turin. These were the subjects of a 1998 series called "House and Garden," and they were reminders of the beauty and insidious danger that coexist on the surface of quotidian life.

In an eye-opening series of new works, Oropallo follows her interests with admirable commitment, taking them to a deeper, almost foundational level. She's turned her eye to industrial objects, primarily the metal and plastic barrels used to contain chemicals that are the ingredients of cleaners, sealants, and the like, in bigger-thanbulk quantities — depicted with a combination of computer technology (the digitally outputted Iris print) and silk-screen pattern overlays.

Combined with images of infrastructural elements of home — pipes or bags or pink insulation foam - the industrial drums are more visually compelling than you might expect. The large, photographically based pieces present their subjects as almost monumental sculptural forms, yet they happen to be objects that quickly suggest toxic threat. The show's called "Material Handling," a title that refers both to the artist's use of material visual media and to the material contents of her subjects. Oropallo can see fenced-in stockpiles of barrels and construction materials from her industrial west Berkeley studio and home, so they also relate to her own sense of place. She photographed the chemical drums and buckets with a

digital camera and tweaked the image on the computer. Backgrounds were removed and colors adjusted; then the images were enlarged and affixed to canvas. Some were lifted from industrial catalogs, and these have a more seamless quality that brings to mind Jeff Koons's perfect unused vacuum cleaners. While she's known as a painter, Oropallo hasn't really employed the brush in her work in some time, and here she dispenses with it entirely. The Iris prints have their own distinct, slightly computer-processed color qualities, which Oropallo accentuates with the silk-screen flourishes of home-decor motifs.

The most benign, perhaps even cheerful, piece here is called "Solution." It's a nearly monochromatic view of white barrels with the manufacturer's pale blue snowflake logo printed on them, along with the word that identifies their contents: glycerine. It's a relief that it's the stuff that soap is made of. Oropallo accentuates the aura of the contents with a white silk-screen layer of more ornate snowflake patterns. The container, it seems, can be given personality when handled with signage.

There's more ambiguity to an image of two yellow drums set atop a fork-liftable palette and bound together with a taut layer of shimmering shrink-wrap. It's more difficult to discern what's inside these identical forms, as there's only a small label of cryptic numbers and symbols. Oropallo again uses silk screen to adorn the drums with a perky pop flourish: stylized daisies, which bring to mind those bathtub stickers designed to prevent slippage.

Some of the pieces feature images of precariously stacked buckets, which bring to mind a feeling of insecurity. "Pitch," for example, shows tall stacks of dark metal buckets with rusty rims and loop handles that rest at varying positions. These objects, perhaps salvage items, are empty vessels, but they defy the standard metaphoric read about fertility and possibility. Looking at them, you can't help but wonder what corrosive liquid had been sloshing around inside.

Part of what makes these pieces so appealing is the artist's willingness to take risks. While thematically consistent, these pieces diverge from Oropallo's previous works with sparer compositions and new technological tools. They find an artist recognized as a painter challenging the purity of her genre with photographic techniques, computer manipulation, and silkscreening. And yet Oropallo brings to them a painterly eye in her use of composition and form. In a few instances, the taut plastic that binds the drums and buckets together has the look of translucent brush strokes. The painterly roots are there if you need them, but at this point in art history hybrid forms don't require apology. Especially if there's purity in the way the materials are handled. &

'Deborah Oropallo: Material Handling.' Through Feb. 24. Tues.—Sat., 10 a.m.— 5:30 p.m., Stephen Wirtz Gallery, 49 Geary, S.F. (415) 433-6879.

dilettante by Summer Burkes

Xtreme mediocrity

as Vegas is the logical vacation destination in which to watch Super Bowl XXXV. One is already stuck in the land of hyperbole and competition and extremes; one is legally allowed to bet fistfuls of money on the game; one needs some sit-down social time without decks of cards or the constant key-of-C slot-machine din being involved; and after days of blatant, lowest-common-denominator advertising. one wishes for, even craves, the relatively "intelligent" variety. Really, the commercials are the only thing besides the halftime show that has always been considered worthy of viewing in my family and friend circles - we didn't even know that the New York Giants and the Baltimore Ravens were playing until the day of the game, and who the hell are the Baltimore Ravens, anyway?... So for the ad content and spectacle alone, we poach two Superbowl parties the day of the game inside the Luxor hotel-casino.

At the lower-rent Superbowl party, patrons purchase \$25 tickets to sit inside the Luxor's Blue Man Group Theater in the dark with a host of other fans and scream at a humongous-screen television and perhaps win a signed football or helmet in the halftime raffle. The girls from Midnight Fantasy, the Luxor's alltits revue, call out the prizes in their best I'm-your-hot-girlfriend-who-loves-football-no-really clothes, and drinks and food are priced regular-for-Vegas. My mom and I sit in the top rows, subconsciously choosing to catch up on sewing and gardening and other girly things, pausing only to critique the commercials together, and flinching every time a good/bad play is made, because the uproar comes as a shock to the inattentive.

All the way across the gigantic complex in some random ballroom at the invited-guests-only Superbowl shindig, the partygoing is stepped up a notch: guests are seated at round banquet tables with football-themed centerpieces. the hall is festooned with field goalshaped balloon sculptures, the food and drinks are free, and instead of the Midnight Fantasy girls, some Penthouse Pets are on the scene, signing autographs and posing for pictures.

Three swarthy, intensely focused men who've got cash riding on several aspects of the game tell me that they're actually from Las Vegas and that the "invited guests" are people who gamble at the Luxor a lot. (So in a sense, they've all already paid for this party.) They ask me which team I'm rooting for, and when I shrug, they order me to root for the Giants. They bet on weird things like who will score points in which quarter. I ask if I can bet on whether Britney Spears will trip and fall during the halftime show, and they fail to see that I'm joking. The Invited Guests all talk loudly during

sports people - so, bored, I socialize with the Pets. I ask them if they like football, and they all give me a hint of the same shrug I just gave the three Giants fans before rattling off their rote now-that-my-boyfriend's-explainedsome-of-the-rules-to-me answer. Even though this is Las Vegas, Land of the Socially Retarded Meathead Men, the Pets aren't even getting all that fawned over - they're just here to complete the illusion that the ultimate hot girl is also the perfect dude.

On Sunday, in front of Pacific Bell Park, thrill seekers mill around asking for spare tickets to the XFL's first San Francisco game. Today history is being made as the San Francisco Demons battle the Los Angeles Xtreme — in a brand-new football league tailor-made for a fatter, meaner, lazier, richer, bloodlustier, and shorter-attentionspan generation.

In this eight-team league co-owned by NBC and the WWF, the televisionviewing experience is purportedly, like everything else nowadays, "extreme" cameras and mics on the players' helmets, cameras and mics on the huddles, cameras and mics on the field. The fans, they say, come first both at home, in the feeling that they're right there getting roughed up

and scoring points with the teams, and in the stadium, where they have the opportunity to purchase 50-yard-line tickets for nosebleed prices if they plan far enough ahead. The standard rules of the NFL have been slackened and enhanced to allow for more ass kicking and less dead air, and it's probably a purposeful source of Beavisand-Butthead humor that Dick Butkus, the league's director of foot-

ball competition, makes sure these rules are upheld. This strange emphasis on blue-collar (and some would say free market-socialist) principles like money for points instead of reputation — is refreshing in a way. The common man has gotten commoner, and all the rest of us are bored with humorless old-school sports, so this might be the most genius marketing ploy since Survivor. It should be noted that Gov. Jesse "the Body" Ventura is an XFL broadcast analyst.

Inside the gorgeous ballpark, 40,000 or so fans scream and holler like at real games, but with less purpose and more milling and drinking. The median age is far younger than at "regular" sporting events, and the crowd is as interracial as

they come. Unable to withstand any sporting event for more than a couple hours, my companion and I arrive just in time for the tail end of the halftime show, in which the San Francisco Demon cheerleading squad dances on the field in loose formation and not together at all. Though I'm sure we just missed an actual routine and they're all talented dancers, together and now, they look like a wooparty beer commercial. As in Duff beer. As in The Simpsons. But it's real.

As the football game starts up again, a blimp and several planes fly overhead with advertising banners for dotcoms and TV stations fluttering behind. Yachts and houseboats and catamarans speed toward Islais Creek and out again; a row of boats sits "watching" the game like big white pets. On the field one dude's uniform says The Truth where his name should be, and

there's an intrepid camera guy on the chalk who threatens to get run over by the players every couple of minutes. An enormous screen above the stadium, the badass Demon logo on either side of it, obstructs the view of the water and provides a better view of what's going on down below. Unlike in the NFL, players are interviewed about plays during the game.

Directly in front of us, two men with "L" and "A" and also "Pain' and "Power" painted on their shirtless backs

Launch it! The XFL's San Francisco Demons tackle the

each other, so when you think about it. this is the civilized way to be primal." It is a ridiculous game, but also an intriguing and compelling one, just like regular football. Add a dash of irreverence and humor, stir in an ambulance full of severe injury and more tits, and presto: the new face of football.

We get the feeling that, like us, most people don't know or care what's actually going on — they just know how to drink beer. One successful paper airplane flies from the nosebleeds and down onto the blue grass, inspiring a small but continuous fleet of the same. Just then a helicopter comes in to hover above, like a mama chopper watching its babies. It's such an incredibly clear and gorgeous day that one can see all the way to Mount Diablo, and even three-quarters of the moon has come out to see what's going on. But oh yes, the game.





Pet the monkey: The Penthouse Pets get up close and personalized.

Los Angeles Xtreme, and it feels right. dance around and "woo" in black-andgold face paint and golden clown wigs. During the appropriate plays, they make like Robert Bly and goad the allred-wearing S.F. crowd, which throws things at them, which makes them even more obnoxious. They signal each other for some practiced, choreographed maneuvers and raise fists in the air in the shape of an X. Without them, this wouldn't be football.

"I wonder how the NFL feels about this - it must make them extremely uncomfortable," my companion says. He theorizes that sports are so glorified because it's a bloodless battle. "It's human nature to battle. The fucking Romans used to watch lions eat Christians for sport and cheer for gladiators that killed

We score, or something, and the crowd hollers loudly and in unison, startling us from our reverie. A menacing-like rock-ish riff issues from the speakers, and the Demon cheerleaders, blown up on the screen from the sidelines, wiggle and throw their hands up gingerly and tinkle their fingers and go woo" without messing up their hair. Close-ups of fans on the screen reveal brandished jerseys, masks, cups, fingers, and lots of teeth. None of us has ever seen this team play before, but already morale and merchandise sales are high. One surmises that pride in where one lives is the driving factor in team support, whether or not that team has actually proved itself. A chant of "L.A. sucks!" arises (oh, the catharsis that must bring to so many), and then, when it dies down, a small voice of reason: "You think San Francisco's any better?" The game is tied.

During downtime some wrestler with a fat neck comes on to the boos of the crowd to say that XFL is going to "change the face of football forever." In the women's bathroom the changing table prominently features an advertisement for some baby-supply Web site. Sigh. Back outside, during another downtime, the cheerleaders actually

dance together, which looks good, but once again don't even come close to leading cheers. I figure out why the Demonettes or whatever they're called perturb me so: in the XFL, whereas the football is "extreme," the cheerleading is still cliché, just porned up a little. Here was mainstream sports' chance to rope in an unprecedented number of female viewers, and they ignored it. Cheerleading — at least in schools and not leagues — requires a strict athleticism and a willingness to be injured, just like football, so it should follow that the cheerleaders in the XFL would be second-string pro cheerleaders and would be put to stupidly ambitious physical tests, just like the XFL ball players are. My subconscious wants to see some woman fall off of a five-person-tall pyramid as much as all these boys' subconsciouses want to see one man tackle the shit out of another. Now there's an exciting new football league, but the vast majority of women who are still not into the sport have absolutely nothing new to watch. Still, it's a young

Anyway, sometime in the fourth quarter the Demons make a touchdown, and sparkly pyrotechnics explode from atop the screen. Cool. We try to participate with the rest of the crowd — "yaay ... boo ... ya-boo-yaaay — but the action moves too fast. The L.A. Xtreme make a field goal with 3:55 to go, so many Demons fans leave — too soon, it seems, because the Demons put their dukes up. The crowd gets more excited; the Demons rush and fail with 17 seconds to go; they kick, they make it, and the Demons barely win by two points. It's an admittedly amazing play, but the fact that the XFL is funded by the WWF raises the obvious question: did they really do it, or was it scripted to galvanize the fans' love for the supposedly miraculous Demons? If I were back sitting with those three Vegas gamblers, I'd jump in and put my money on L.A. Xtreme for their first home game ... More rock 'n' roll pyrotechnics go off in front of the beautiful bay backdrop, sealing XFL's deal as the only sporting event I would willingly attend more than once.

Postgame broadcasts on the screen reveal that the kicker will receive \$2,500 for his field goal; more players are interviewed; and the team, instead of shuffling back to the locker room, gravitates toward waiting fans and slaps high fives. As the sold-out crowd exits the stadium, a fight breaks out (of course), and three men end up hog-tied on the ground, thereby cementing the notion that the XFL has turned the NFL into the WWF by creating a Cops vignette of its own. One Demon Girl in a laminate, high heels, an XFL halter top, and slick bell-bottoms signs an autograph for Jerk A as, unbeknownst to her, Jerk B poses behind her, pointing to her ass and grinning, and Jerk C snaps a picture. "Mom, take a picture of this?" a bystanding 10-year-old says to his mother, who rolls her eyes and turns back around.

The face of football might have changed, but the ass remains the same. .

enture into any local record store and you're sure to find a handful of releases featuring Mr. Lif, one of the most promising MCs to emerge last year. There's his debut EP, Enters the Colossus, and his underground hit single from last year, "Front on This" backed with "Be Out," on the latter of which he drops ego killers like "Have you ever heard the sound of bones splitting?" Equally effective are his appearances on singles by Edan ("Rapperfection") and Chicago's Push Button Objects ("360")

However, Mr. Lif is more than a wellspring of punch lines, metaphors, and similes. Underneath the braggadocio lies a keen awareness of the societal pressures that have driven young men since the days of Robert Johnson to express their feelings through syncopated words of anger. It's that tradition that the prodigal rapper taps into, emitting a heartfelt intellectual rage that distinguishes him from his peers as he seeks to confront the colossus.

Since late last year, Mr. Lif has been splitting time between his hometown of Boston and Oakland, where he resides with his girlfriend. Currently in the works are a number of appearances with fellow Beantown rappers such as 7L and Esoteric, a group album with Akrobatik as the Perceptionists, and a full-length debut of his own.

Bay Guardian: I listened to your EP today, and I noticed that a lot of it is battle rhyme-oriented and imagistic at the same time. Do you see yourself as a battle MC, or is that just the way that you flow?

Mr. Lif: The battle for me in my rhymes is to try and maintain a positive outlook and my own identity in a world that ultimately controls you in a million and one ways in the name of cash. First of all, you're born and you get involved in this educational system, which around the age of 19 or so, I realized was just basically gearing me toward economic success. There wasn't a lot of encouragement to do artistic things anyway, because generally people will push you to try to do something that will put money directly into your pocket. My level of belief is very low because America, or the human world, is just a machine that needs to be kept running, and they're not going to teach you the type of knowledge that will open your mind and your heart and make you really want to strive to find some sort of reinforcement in yourself. Who the hell wants to work 40 hours a week?

Enters the Colossus is an aggressive record because it's my first body of work, and I'm just basically saying, "I'm here to stay." I'm breaking open the doors of hip-hop and letting y'all know, "Don't even bother to try and oust me." Secondly, I'm striving to maintain identity, seek what actual truth is, and realize I've been wandering through a maze serving other people's functions. I'm trying to see if

MC Avenger Mr. Lif fights the colossus with thoughtful battle raps. By Mosi Reeves

there's any way I can just follow my passions and not feel ultimately

I mean, I went through a terrible stage. I dropped out of [Colgate University] ..

BG: What year did you drop out? ML: I dropped out in 1995. It was the end of my sophomore year. I was at school with a B average and just stopped going to classes with a month left in my semester, because I had no belief in what I was doing.

BG: What were you majoring in? ML: I was studying to be a doctor. I was a science major, then I switched over to English, but I never took an English class. Shit was all crazy.

Ultimately, it was just me and my anger toward various factors that I don't believe are in favor of my own

personal development or the personal development of any of my peers.

BG: If you battle to maintain your individuality, then what makes you different from all the other MCs who battle on wax?

ML: Because I don't think that's what they're battling against at all. I get the sense that cats are definitely trying to talk shit about other people.

Prowess is always involved. It's an aspect of hip-hop. I mean, [hip-hop] came from battling. One of the primary forms in which MCs existed was to hold down their turf. But I think that for me it's a different thing, and if you look at any of my battle rhymes, there is some sort of awareness factor.

BG: When I was first listening to your stuff, I thought there was more sociopolitical content than there really

was. Your outlook seems very conscious of your surroundings, even though the political element is not explicitly stated.

ML: People will listen to [Enters the Colossus] and say that "Arise" is the only song that's conscious. But what is "Avengers" about, then? I'm talking about people's submissiveness and loyalty to an American system that ultimately rapes them, culturally and spiritually, and doesn't try to support them. I have a whole 12-bar verse in the dead center of the song that's

Then you look at the end of "Datablend," where the last half of the last verse [is the] words of a man who's just filled with so much rage that he's talking about breaking down the whole world and praying for a rebirth.

"Cro-Magnon" is another freeform abstract expression where the end of the second verse is, "Perception is my best weapon / Getting sharper as I study my lessons." Then, on the end of the first verse, I take on the persona of what humankind does to the earth: "I devour the ozone and disappear in a puff of exhaust / A vision of holocaust / And when I reappear / You'll know that the rebirth of humankind is near." Then, a biblical reference: "40 days later / The first DJ with a fader / And MCs with visual data."

I don't know, man. People tend to miss it because it's not in their face. I'm not Dead Prez ... The way I go about launching my attack is by embodying it in my persona. And it's definitely in my lyrics, but I don't like to preach. It's just in an emotional free-form, so to speak. It's my therapy, so I'm getting everything off

BG: Did you used to battle other

ML: Not really. I have no passion to stand up and just talk shit about some MC that I don't even know, which is what battles really are now. They'il put you up against some cats you don't even have a legitimate beef with of any sort, and it's all on some "late night at the Apollo" shit.

I'm not good at snapping at people man. My friends will tell you that I'm a funny cat, because we joke around a lot. But my specialty is in no way to stand up and talk shit about someone so the crowd will cheer.

BG: You were talking about your consciousness. Is there any way you express it beyond music? Do you organize or do other kinds of art?

ML: For instance, March 2 through 4 I'm going to be involved in this program called EPIIC [Education for Public Inquiry and International Citizenship]. It's a forum that's been created to bring people from all over to world to encourage them to think freely. They have forums just so people can have discussions about topics that don't receive much light and aren't often discussed.

On March 2, I'm going to be involved in a forum that deals with race ["Race and Ethnicity: A Global Comparative Inquiry"]. I know it's a very broad topic, but I'm sure that they're going to have different types of panels that deal with different aspects of race, and so on and so forth. I'm definitely going to be as involved in that as I possibly can.

I work with kids through the International House of Blues Foundation and also through an afterschool program [at the Maynard School in Cambridge, Mass.]. I build with the youth. I talk to them; I find out what they listen to, where their heads are at.

I'm teaching a hip-hop class right now. I'm teaching young kids how to rhyme, how to speak from the heart, that their imagination is a precious thing, and that they need to develop it. 🌣



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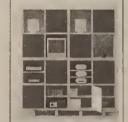
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music

ot since junior high, when I was obsessed with U2, have I loved a record as lite and unflinchingly earnest as Coldplay's first full-length album, Parachutes. Like Travis's The Man Who, this is uncontroversial, radiofriendly "dad rock." But when my mood is threatening to bottom out and I need something to cushion the fall, this is what I play.

The album is a relentless assault of melancholy, with just barely optimistic lyrics sung over melodies that make you want to lay down and cry. In "Don't Panic" a sparse and slightly dissonant ascending guitar melody darkly questions the refrain, "We live in a beautiful world, yeah we do yeah we do." And "Everything's Not Lost" opens with only piano and vocals, and builds slowly to a dirgelike chorus in which singer Chris Martin repeats over and over, "Oh yeah, everything's not lost." Piano, strings, and other production effects soften the edges without making them feel less sparse, while plodding, shuffly-slow beats give the songs an aimless, wandering feel. Too bad Martin sounds like the clinically depressed twin of Dave Matthews, although even that has an upside: Coldplay is one of those rare bands my little sister and I both like.

Will Champion, the drummer of Coldplay, talked about the Dave Matthews issue.

Me: "The fact that your singer sounds kind of like Dave Matthews, is that an asset or a liability?"

Champion: "I'm afraid I've never heard of Dave Matthews."

Me {Incredulous, then suspicious}: 'You've never heard of Dave Matthews?'

Champion: "No."

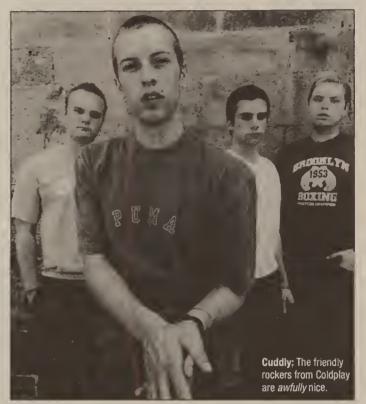
Me: "Has no one ever made that comparison before?"

Champion: "Um, I don't think so. Well, maybe they have, but none of us have ever really heard him. We don't have any of his records, unfortunately. I'nı sorry 'bout that.'

Me: "No, don't be. It's probably better that way.'

In the case of Oasis, I was so tragically, snobbishly behind the curve as to ignore them until they became boring and drug free. Fortunately, l have caught on to Coldplay in time. Still, though Parachutes has sold only 180,000 units in the United States, it notched over 2.5 million copies worldwide. The band is happy, but my short conversation with Champion drew attention to the band's increasing loss of control over its music, a downside of major

Champion's a fan of Nick Drake, for example. He's not a fan of Drake's music turning into the soundtrack for a car commercial. "I don't like it at all," he said. "When people put their songs on adverts or something, the argument is that it's trying to get their song as much attention as possible, but I'm not sure that's the case. I think it's using something that people



That's nice

Coldplay: all-around good guys from the U.K. with a hit album — Parachutes — and a world tour. By Amy Paris

know to associate with a product. I'm not particularly keen on using music to sell people things."

His perspective was surprising, since Coldplay's single "Yellow" had been used in a promotional spot for ABC-TV over the holidays — a fact confirmed by a Columbia records spokesperson, who said it was the soundtrack to "one of those montage-type things where they show Dharma and Greg hugging.'

I asked Champion if the band had approved its use.

"What's it being used for?" he asked. I explained.

"I'm not sure," he said. "I don't remember being asked about that. It was probably something to do with our publishing company, going behind our back, so ... Which isn't too good. That's terrible. I'll have to sort that out."

The word "nice" is often used to describe Coldplay - a description that was certainly borne out in my 20-minute interview. Then again, as Champion pointed out, most musicians are "nice" in interviews. In the case of Coldplay it seems pertinent, for several reasons: their on- and offstage persona is nice, they are middle-class guys with college degrees and functional relationships with their parents, and maybe because, above all, there seems to be a "nice" trend in British rock these days. Gone from the spotlight is the cool detachment of Blur and the antics of Misters "Where were you while we were getting high?" Gallagher; replacing this is the happy-go-lucky "Why does it always rain on me?" of Travis, or Coldplay's earnestness.

The reaction of the music press has been a grudging acceptance: reviews of Parachutes provide a near comprehensive list of pejorative synonyms for "nice," from "non-toxic" to "awfully nice." (Alan McGee, Creation Records' founder, was the only one to come out and say what all this really meant; he told Q that Parachutes was "music for bedwetters.") Too bad that being an asshole has become a requirement for rock 'n' roll canonization: to me, a band coming along that isn't afraid to be nice is, well, nice.

"I don't think it's a problem being nice," Champion said. "I mean, I've never had a problem with people being nice to me. I don't really want to be spat at and called names, and if I was watching a show I can't stand watching people who think they're a lot better than their audience; I think that's awful. We try and create a good atmosphere between us and the crowd, a relationship, an intimacy. So, you know, if I'm too nice, then I apologize." &

Coldplay appear Mon/12 at the Fillmore, S.F. (415) 346-6000.







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music



All the concern about the lack of venues for live music has generated a number of new rock nights at bars around town in an effort to revitalize the scene. So while the Tip Top hardly has shows anymore, the Mission District's Voodoo Lounge has been booking local bands galore. And now we have Opal, an indie rock night glowing out of the dark, windowless corner of the Edinburgh Castle's upstairs room. Eric Jonasson, a local musician, recording engineer, and indie label guy, launched the series last Friday, aiming to book all things indie and rock so that devotees can see bands on Friday night without purchasing tickets online a week in advance.

During and between sets of dissonant dream pop from Sacramento's Electro Group and touches of Manchester-ish sound from Portland's Starter Kit, Spiritsmoking emo kids pulled cans of beer

from their backpacks and greased their fingers on fish and chips outside the performance room. Heeding the buzz that Young Corbett would deliver more moves than the celebrated boxing champ who inspired the band's name, people filled the room just as the foursome warmed up with a quick sound check.

As they eased into their set with a mellow number called "Slow Noodle," the formerly listless crowd swayed and swooned to the melodic, wandering bass line played by Brandon Battaglia. The band went on to deliver a set of blissfully grand songs that could he nestled into the nebulous genre of Central Valley rock made popular by bands like Fiver and Grandaddy,

Things picked up on "Temporary Names," as singer-guitarist Phil Harvey belted out rapid, coarse-as-gravel vocals — a reminder that not all indie boys

Syndicate's "Halloween" featured the kind of sublimely simple melody that Young Corbett work into their origi-

The only drawback to the band's careful attention to detail - perfect tone and textured psychedelic guitar — was that Harvey didn't allow his rambunctious stage persona to emerge until he broke a string. As it dangled over his fingers, he played freak-out licks to cover up, before grabbing the string and yanking it over his head, letting out a howl of relief.

It was an inspiring evening of indie coolness — despite the realization that the tucked-away room might not just be a place for the too-cool-for-school to hang out, but also a means of keeping us indie geeks away from the normals. Young Corbett play with Teriyaki Feb. 27, 9 p.m., Kimo's, 1351 Polk, S.F. \$5. (415) 885-4535. (Deborah Giattina)

Slender

Haunted Radio (Guapo)

In a time when no shortage of "punk" bands shamelessly pander to saccharine radio tastes, local lads Slender deserve kudos for bashing out hook-filled tunes without sacrificing hard-edged crunch. "Plumber John" kicks things off with a catchy tambourine-banging slab driven by the one-two punch of Clint Grubb's chunky quitar and lead singer Rod Damnit's lascivious Penthouse Forum-meets-Jehovah's Witness Watchtower lyrics. Damnit dwells on matters of the loins through most of the band's material, from the old-fashioned pop-punk twist of "Sad Ending" to the heavy grind of "Dirt Nap Mama." The subject gradually wears thin, but the band's concise (no song clocks in over three minutes), well-crafted tunes and Damnit's self-deprecating David Lee Roth growl manage to keep things entertaining. "Pleasanton," the album's only original that isn't fixated on getting laid, succinctly bemoans the fate of the Bay Area in the hands of the new economy with the two-word chorus, "Gentrification/Gentridefecation." With solid songs that comfortably stand alongside a crushing version of Johnny Cash's "Big River" (not to mention an anthemic take on the Mormon hymn "Come Come Ye Saints" that's apparently getting airplay in Salt Lake City), Slender's rowdy but radio-ready sound gets progressively more infectious with repeat listens. (Dave Pehling)

Peter Barshay

Pit of Fashion (Platform)

After almost three decades of backing jazz dignitaries like Milt Jackson, Pharaoh Sanders, Freddie Hubbard, and Joe Henderson, Berkeley-based bassist Peter Barshay makes his first foray into bandleader territory with a solid, groove-based album that showcases his skills as one of the ballsiest upright players around. Anyone who's ever seen Barshay live can attest to this. The man plucks, pulls, and plunks at the bass strings with a ferocious yet lyrical style that recalls Paul Chamber's resonant timbre, while evoking the nuance and melodicism of folks like Ron Carter and Dave Holland — low-end masters who've established themselves as formidable front players. A classically trained player with an intensely funky soul, Barshay presents seven originals and four covers here, tracks that demonstrate his ability to play just about anything with a soulful ease, from reggae beats ("Radio Joe"), to Afro-Cuban and Latin rhythms (the lovely "Please Recall"), to fusion patterns ("OK, Bye Bye, Fine," "Stuff"). Tenor saxophonist Dave Ellis (the first in a remarkable roster of guest artists that includes Mike Stem, Steve Smith, Patches Stewart, Ray Obiedo, Wayne Wallace, and Larry Goldings), kicks it all off with a burning horn hook on a funk-heavy cover of Victor Feldman's "Joshua," a cut on which Norton Buffalo's harmonica riffs add an air of whimsy and charm. (Sylvia W. Chan)

Folkways remembered

efore I found 'N Sync, before I found Sixxteen and 1984, before I found out I could handle metal if it was performed by girls, before Blonde Redhead, Bedhead, Epicenter, and Olympia, before the Smiths, the Dead Milkmen, college radio, and even the FM dial, I was a fashionless III-yearold who did her homework while listening to Peter, Paul, and Mary.

My friends were coming on to U2 and the Talking Heads. My longdistance love interest had found god in Clapton. I was still taking ballet classes and just beginning to wonder about the world outside my parents' record collection, which ran to Bob Dylan and Joan Baez, Richard and Mimi Fariña, Woody Guthrie, Pete Seeger, the Limelighters, and Jean Ritchie, a woman from east Kentucky who sang about selkies washed up onshore and coal miners caught beneath the earth. I had an older brother who'd begun to paper his walls with Pink Floyd posters, but my dad had an Autoharp. My momhad a dulcimer. We went to concerts put on by the Golden Link Folk Singing Society. My earliest memory of political humor is Tom Paxton skewering President Jimmy Carter on his traumatic brush with a killer bunny rabbit.

When I became a real teenager, it must have given my parents whiplash. All of a sudden MTV was celebrating its second year of life, and I knew all the words. The combination of ballet and Pat Benatar proved a potent one; it wasn't long before I was wearing crinolines and pajamas to school, skipping class with girls who called themselves Icy and Snow, and dating juvenile delinquents with exquisite Mohawks and no dental hygiene to speak of.

I'm thinking about all of this because of a movie I saw recently about a boy band's rise to fame, I mean, that's what O Brother, Where Art Thou? was about, right? — once you got past the flight from justice and its hounds, the mythical treasure, the faithless wife and passel of daughters at home, the sleazy electoral politics. I probably missed a lot, f was bored. What kept me going was the music.

I came home that night obsessed. I spent New Year's Day in the emergency room (but enough about that), and all I could think about was whether my friends would pick me up the soundtrack - which kept selling out - while shopping at Amoeba. They did, and it dredged up my childhood greatest hits: traditional ballads, bluegrass songs drenched in old-time religion and hopes for better times, a sweet by-andby I heard in the pretty strings, the gorgeous harmonies, the soaring female voices. The soundtrack notes - and

the lineup itself — say all of this music making and remaking is still going on, at bluegrass festivals and folk gatherings and even down in Nashville amid the honky-tonk and the rockabilly. I can barely imagine it. I'm out of touch. But what do I know? I just lay on my parents' living room floor and listened to it because it was there, because f didn't know what to do with my pocket money, because I still thought my pretty, black-haired, guitar-playing mother was some relation to Joan Baez.

Ritchie's Clear Waters Remembered from 1974 must have been my favorite record from that time, because I thought to take it back with me after a summer home from college, because I take it out now and its cover is faded and taped together. You know that foolish point where the scratches on the record become part of the sound for you? That's what I felt when I played it again. On the back is a dedication by Ritchie that ends with the words "Because f want my children to share my memories, I pass on to them the songs of my life, and they may listen when they are ready to hear. I call them the songs of all time, and in time my children will find them to have been their own all along." I hope they came back to collect their inheritance. 💠

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got it

by jeff chang

Breaking out

mokey Johnson was one of the lost geniuses of the New Orleans second line, the kind of drummer whom even Zigaboo Modeliste idolized. One of the two great sticksmen behind Eddie Bo (the other being the frenzy-inducing James Black), Johnson had a precision and speed that would later show up in the drumming of Pretty Purdie and Idris Muhammad. It Ain't My Fault (Tuff City) doesn't nearly do the justice the man deserves, but you'd still be a fool to

Johnson's great Nola single, "It Ain't My Fault," became a Mardi Gras brass-band standard and a No Limit battle cry. "Soul Power" is not the James Brown showstopper but a mellower organ-groover opened by a tasty break. The stop-and-go "Funkie Moon" is a rockdafied redux of the Meters' "Look-Ka Py Py," two minutes of Smokey saying to Ziggy, "I hear ya!" And "You've Got What I Want", with its Cannonball Adderlyesque guitar and piano vamp, will strike crate diggers like a lightning bolt of déjà vu.

Familiarity is the point for the Breakestra. Led by That Kid Named Miles, né Tackett, the band broke out in the late '90s Hollywood club scene of postironic headz. Live Mix Part Two (Stones Throw) plays like a DJ

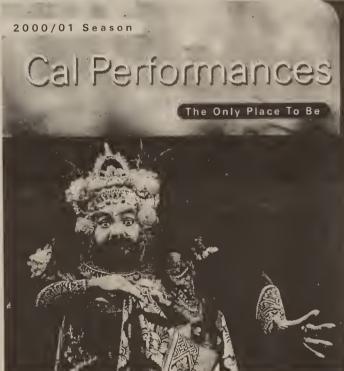
mix of your favorite breaks. But what was the inspiration? Quincy Jones's "Summer in the City"? Or is it Pharcyde's "Passing Me By"? PE's "Public Enemy No. 1" or the Meters' "Just Kissed My Baby"? BDP's "I'm Still No. 1" or All the People's "Cramp

Naming the sampled songs and the hip-hop tracks that made them famous is one part of the fun; arguing about who got it better is another. But pay attention: a flesh-and-blood band is cutting and blending James Brown's "Funky Drummer" into Laura Lee's "Crumbs off the Table," "Sister Sanctified" into Eddie Bo's "Hook and Sling," in ways DJs could have never imagined. And so this is the kind of music that can provide endless hours of epistemological parfor debate (amid all the table dancing). If Live Mix Part Two is a time capsule, funksters of the future will be left to eternally puzzle over the dilemma: what came first — the sampler or the band? Was it live or MPC?

Sadly, there is no cover of Little Feat's "Fool Yourself," a break that A Tribe Called Quest lifted for "Bonita Appelbaum" (and over which the Fugees versioned "Ready or Not" and "Killing Me Softly"), from a song written by Miles's dad. I recall once being obsessed with finding every Little Feat album — bootlegs and all - figuring that I'd surely un-

cover a motherlode of breakbeats. In fact, I found just a few. But the real point is that Brooklyn-style Afrocentric hip-hop introduced me to new-Dixie-via-old-Hollywood hippie rock. (Hip-hop also introduced me to Amon Duul, but that's another story.) I'd wager that I'm not the only head out there eager to break open their four-CD box set, Hotcakes and Outtakes (Rhino).

The prurient hip-hop interest is in the decidedly second-line-influenced sticksmen - drummer Richie Havward and percussionist Sam Clayton - who set off "Spanish Moon" and "Fat Man in the Bathtub." But the payoff is in the late Lowell George's peculiar madness, summed up in the less-than-wholesome whorehouse sing-along of "Dixie Chicken" or the mysterious wisterias, regrets, and falling guitar picks of "20 Million Things." The box set, of course, uncovers a CD's worth of unreleased recordings. No breaks here, but there is the original version of "Tecnage Nervous Breakdown," a weird punkish thing that explains rock criticism in a couplet — "It makes some men crazy / And then they start to drool" — then degenerates into a free association-O.J. Simpson highway nightmare. "You might be living on the wrong side of your toast or jam," George says. Words and beats to drive by. *



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Spoon

Girls Can Tell (Merge)

If the paranoid title of Spoon's Girls Can Tell is an indication, Britt Daniel is stuck between his cock and a hard place. On his band's third collection of top-notch pop punk, the Austin, Texas-based musician is so concerned with changing notions of masculinity that every track is conceptually, almost obsessively, hung up on perceptions of manhood. It's not the easiest (self-)examination, either: "I long for the days when they used to say 'ma'am' and 'yes, sir,' " he admits at one point, his voice confused and bruised like Elvis Costello after a grueling bar crawl. "For now, I'm gonna find buttons for my dad's old used shirt."

Refreshingly, however, unlike men whose homophobia and misogyny inspires them to romanticize the socalled days when men were real men, Daniel and his bandmates — Josh Zarbo on bass and drummer ling Eno - have turned their insecurity into a site for investigating modern male heterosexuality, Girls Can Tell occasionally seems self-indulgently bitter about ever evolving expectations of men, but it's also curious, reflective, and vulnerable. When Daniel references rigid, cut-and-dried notions of masculinity in his songs about dates and mornings after ("Take the Fifth," "1020 AM"), he's not glorifying the

past so much as highlighting his own fears of irrelevancy and inadequacy.

Which, to listeners who typically avoid all-male bands precisely because such issues are rarely explored, makes Girls Can Tell almost revelatory in concept alone. The band's tremendous sound and fury only reinforces that idea: a jagged, ragged rock explosion recalling Costello, Superchunk, and Wire, the album churns and burns with an intensity that breathes a needed sense of urgency and anxiety into the cock-rocky musical climate of late. And on Girls Can Tell, Spoon makes today's much discussed masculinity crisis seem less like a social phenomenon than an art movement. (Jimmy Draper)

Matthew Shipp

Matthew Shipp's New Orbit (Thirsty Ear)

It was always a mistake to try to pack Matthew Shipp into the same avantgarde piano bag as Cecil Taylor. If that wasn't clear from his supporting efforts in saxophonist David S. Ware's quartet or on such recent sessions as the DNA duet album with bassist William Parker and his Pastoral Composure quartet CD for the Blue Series (which he curates for the otherwise rock-oriented Thirsty Ear label), he hammers - no, that's not right he caresses the argument home on this startlingly spacious and contemplative session of solo, duo, trio, and quartet recordings. That's not to say you would mistake the Wilmington. Del., native for Bill Evans, either. Indeed, there's little in these 10 original tracks to link Shipp with obvious precursors from the jazz tradition of the 1950s, '60s, or '70s. Concrete references don't come easily. Try to imagine a meeting of Erik Satie and Horace Tapscott. Doesn't help, does it?

By slowing himself down, and asking bassist Parker and drummer Gerald Cleaver to focus on his mediVarious artists

(Derk Richardson)

tative vibe, and by inviting trum-

peter Wadada Leo Smith to splatter

his brassy horn all over the canvas,

Shipp succeeds in exposing his indi-

vidual musical vocabulary more lu-

cidly than ever before. Or maybe

that's just the way I hear it because

and improvised blend that breaks

away from the blues-and-swing

I'm hungry for his kind of composed

neo-orthodoxy while mining deeper

values of unscripted, spontaneous communication and emotional ex-

pression. Shipp and Parker have de-

veloped a harmonic and rhythmic

Cleaver plugs in with sensitivity that

whenever he puts horn to lips. Won-

dering what 21st-century jazz sounds

like? Spin into Shipp's new orbit. The

11-13, Bruno's, S.F. (415) 648-7701.

Matthew Shipp Trio performs Feb.

erupts when necessary, and Smith simply plays the right notes -- which

is to say his, in tune with theirs -

chemistry that owes to no one.

Geology: A Subjective Study of Planet E Vol. 2(Planet E)

The dance floor I envision when listening to this compilation is not a messy one - no fog machines spewing or drunken girls in rubber hot pants and cowboy hats screaming and tossing their hands in the air. This is dance music for moody, introspective Detroit-techno geeks who get seriously lost in a solitary groove for sweaty hours on end, negotiating a disco dancing space that is located between the ass and the mind.

I don't want to imply that the music isn't funky. The compilation, mixed by Mike "Agent X" Clark, is a collection of up-tempo house, techno, and break tracks from Carl Craig's Detroit-based Planet E label, and it spans the mid '90s through 2000 with labelmates Recloose, Common Factor, Alton Miller, and Carl Craig (including his other projects, Innerzone Orchestra and Paperclip People). This is music in the classic Carl Craig tone — nothing flowery or excessive, hardly any human voice, just machines bumping through the bleakness and the beauty of everyday life. The tracks dabble in the melancholic, but bits of joy and housey give-thanks peep out from within the percussive hypnosis.

Craig's "At Les," a slithery minimal track from his extraordinary 1997 fulllength, More Songs about Food and Revolutionary Art, gets propelled into a dirtier boogie with a breakbeat remix and jazzy house keyboards, while Miller's "Exstasol" keeps the tones spacey and understated but the rhythms layered and complex. Ibex's "Bok Choy," which also relies on the beats more than the tones, rocks with tribal techno chaos, while epiphanous jazzy house chords build in and out. Recloose's "Can't Take It" bumps with stop-and-go breaks and aquatic, muffled vocals, making this more like soul music on Mars than just techno from Detroit. (Amanda Nowinski)

Johnnie Taylor

Lifetime: A Retrospective of Soul, Blues, and Gospel 1956-1999 (Stax/Fantasy)

It's hard to say what's more remarkable: how good some of Johnnie Taylor's songs are or the fact that he sang so well for so long - his career spanned nearly five decades before his death last year. The bulk of this three-CD set was culled from Fantasy Records' vast Stax catalog and centers on material recorded between 1966 and 1974. It's important, however, that it begins in the '50s with a series of gospel songs — including his work with Chicago-based groups the Highway Q.C,'s and the Soul Stirrers — because what stands out most about this collection isn't the soulful, formulaic (and wonderful) pop that characterized the Stax sound as much as it is the impassioned vocals, no matter what he's singing, that go

straight back to the church. Recording for Stax in the '60s

and '70s was about making hits; appropriately, some of the best material here is Taylor's big sellers: "Who's Makin' Love," the lovely "I Believe in You (You Believe in Me)," "Disco Lady" (recorded for Columbia with a studio band that included Bootsie Collins and Bernie Worrell), and "Cheaper to Keep Her." Other, less familiar highlights are "Little Bluebird" and "I Ain't Particular," both cowritten by Isaac Hayes, and "Standing in for Jody" and "Hijackin' Love." As strong as Tayor's voice is, he shares the spotlight on the Stax recordings with incredibly tight, disciplined (and often uncredited) Stax session players. Taylor's passing marked the end of an important era of American music; Lifetime pays tribute to it. (J.H. Tompkins)



Bright Eyes and Son, Ambulance Oh Holy Fools (Saddle Creek)

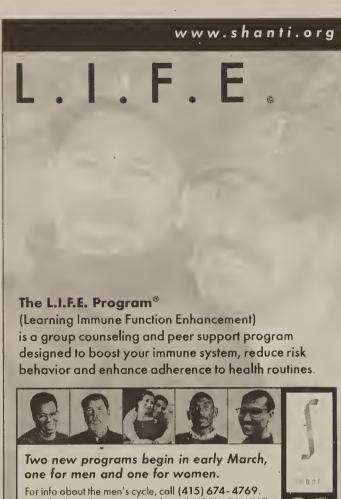
Few things are as bone-chillingly bleak as a Bright Eyes song, yet those very things - the dead of a Nebraskan winter, a suicidal soul's day-to-day survival - are the inspirations for the band's heartrending somnambulist-rock songs. It's unsurprising, then, that Bright Eyes' four contributions to Oh Holy Fools — an emotionally exhausted split CD with Son, Ambulance — are depressed and downtrodden, illustrating the lengths to which Bright Eyes will go to find reasons to live and love. Less noteworthy, however, is Son, Ambulance, whose mediocre bedroom troubadour tracks are unwelcome interruptions. Still, while not successfully matching two artistically equal artists, Oli Holy Fools nonetheless provides a handful of necessary songs by one of indie rock's brightest hopes. (Draper)

K-Ci and Joio X (MCA)

Brothers Cedric "K-Ci" and Joel "Jojo" Hailey cram enough wails, moans, and passion-packed yowls on their third album to keep hearts swooning (and boots knockin') - at least until Jodeci (the testosterone-fueled foursome they make up with Devante Swing and Dalvin Degrate) puts out its comeback record later this year. On their own, the Hailey boys have kept their material relatively clean, never deviating much from formulaic R&B ballads: you know, showing off their sensitive sides and all. Yet despite the cheeseball lyrics, sappy arrangements, and ho-hum minor-key melodies, there's simply no denying that K-Ci Hailey's got a set of the finest pipes around - his raspheavy baritone at times rivals Bobby Womack's and Otis Redding's. It shines here on the doo-wop/gospel-tinged swing of "I Can't Find the Words," and especially on "All the Things I Should Have Known," a syrupy-sweet, I-doneyou-wrong-girl ballad by Babyface from which K-Ci somehow manages to wring a sense of genuine, fevered regret. (Sylvia W. Chan)

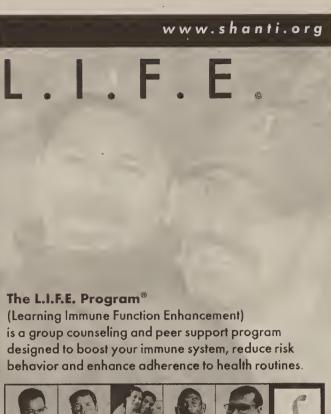
Big Bill Morganfield Ramblin' Mind (Blind Pig)

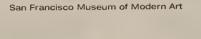
The other day, Eddie - we met in county jail back in the day --- was telling me his ex-girlfriend Bobbi, Miss Jail 2001 he calls her, put him to sleep with a blow job, turned on the electric heater, put it under the covers, and left. His ass got pretty much burned up, he said, he missed her a lot, and did I have some cash? I sent him a tape of Big Bill Morganfield's "My Doggy's Got the Blues" from Ramblin' Mind - at least he'll know he's not alone. Ramblin' Mind's full of mostly rockin' blues like "Foolish Love," tight playing, uncluttered arrangements, and so what if you hear "What I Say" in "People Sure Act Funny," "Honest I Do" in "Little Angel," and "Rollin' and Tumblin'" in "You're Gonna Miss Me"? There are just so many variations on the 12-bar theme. Besides, we're all just Eddie and Bobbi when everything's said and done. Big Bill Morganfield plays Tues/13, Biscuits and Blues, S.F. (415) 292-2583. (Tompkins)



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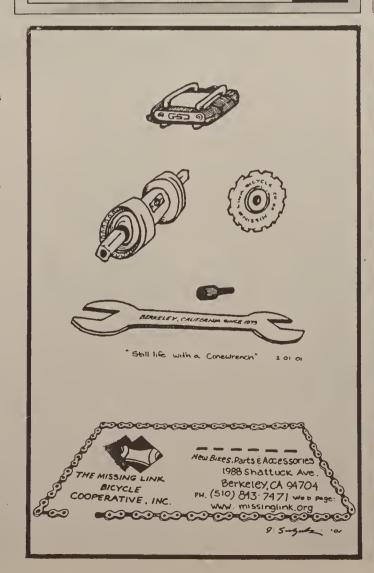
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critics' choices, listings, and more

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Think fast! Improv artists Bay Area Theatresports reenact true-life love connections in "How We First Met."

Feb. 7 Wednesday

See Wed/14.

Electric gypsies What better way to celebrate the grand opening of a club than to have the reunited L.A. Guns christen the stage? Pound-S.F., a new establishment run by Cat Club owner Tony Carracci and Morgan Alm of local group Cell Block 5, has booked a formidable lineup of bands over a period of three days. Orange County punk outfit Ignite headlines tonight with Bane; Thursday, catch Jerry Cantrell of Alice in Chains fame and Swarm; Saturday, the whole thing culminates in a performance by the original lineup of the L.A. Guns, with American Heartbeat opening. The club boasts a full kitchen, 450-person capacity, and most important, a giant Apogee digital sound system. 7 p.m. (also Thurs. and Sat., 8 p.m.), Pound-S.F., Pier 96, 100 Cargo, S.F. \$8 (Thurs. and Sat., \$12). (415) 826-9202. (Deborah Giattina)

Feb. 8 **Thursday**

In my room The roster of clubland celebrity DJs - glamorous stars known for their turntable skills — is mercifully short, with rock 'n' roll has-beens like Perry Farrell and New York glitterati like Mark Ronson occupying a brief but alarmingly



Step into the New Year: Chaksam-Pa Tibetan Dance and Opera Company perform at the Asian Art Museum's Tibetan New Year Celebration. See Sat/10.

8 days aweek

Feb. 7-14, 2001

Stop draggin' your heart around: Listen to the tales of the brokenhearted and the just plain pissed at "My Sucky Valentine." See Tues/13.



growing A-list. Everything but the Girl impresario Ben Watt is an exception to the karaoke DJs who clutter that category; he's capable of exhibiting real mixing skills when tossing together his deep house sets. But be

warned: Watt is no Danny Tenaglia, and his work with fellow DJ Jay Hannan as Lazy Dog is strictly "luv"

friendly dance music, built for twentysomething couples and lounges wrapped in velvet ropes. Hopefully, the sight of a warehouse filled with glo stick-waying revelers will force the duo to turn up the funk as well as the soulful grooves. Keep your fingers crossed. Local producer Julius Papp opens. 10 p.m.-4 a.m., Ten 15 Folsom, S.F. \$15. (415) 431-1200, www.ticketweb.com. (Mosi Reeves)

Feb. 9 Friday

Good looking Who isn't familiar with the photography of French duo Pierre et Gilles? Even if you don't know their names, their kitschy pictures have remained fixed in the collective consciousness of pop cultural iconography since the late '70s. With a penchant for producing exquisite images with brilliant costumes and exaggerated lighting, they have created an impressive body of work that expresses both campy gay sensibility and sublime beauty. More than 50 of their images appear in 'Try This On,' the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts' new five-part show that explores social behavior, costumes, makeup, and self-presentation. Included in the exhibition are pieces that confront social attitudes, issues of power, and cultural appropriation: Korean-born artist Nikki S. Lee's real life-like snapshots of herself as a lesbian, yuppie, and tourist; Laylah Ali's paintings of green aliens fighting for equal rights; Cameron Jamie's wrestling-themed videos and films; and Andrea Robbins and Max Becher's "German Indian" series about Germany's long-standing fascination

with Native American culture. Through May 6. Opening reception 8-11 p.m.; gallery hours Tues.-Wed. and Sat.-Sun., 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thurs.-Fri., 11 a.m.-8 p.m., Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission, S.F. \$3-\$6. (415) 978-2710. (Cicely J. Sweed)

Sure thing You can't overemphasize how different the Bay Area's performance scene would have been during the past two decades or so were it not for the creative energy of Idris Ackamoor and Rhodessa Jones. They've treated audiences to so much — theater and music, plus musical theater, dance, and performance challenging, entertaining, one-of-akind work. A copresentation of the pair's Cultural Odyssey and the ODC Theater, the Underground Jazz

Cabaret is two evenings of jazz, dance, interdisciplinary performance, tap, and spoken word featuring some of my favorite artists, including pianist Omar Sosa, dancer Robert Henry Johnson, and violinist India Cooke. Through Sat/10. 8 p.m., ODC Theater, 3153 Shotwell, S.F. \$12-\$20. (415) 863-9834. (J.H. Tompkins)

Salsa twist Paulito F.G. (Fernandez Gallo), a seasoned singer who rose to prominence in Cuba in the early 1990s with what was described as

February 2001

I SE

THIS ISSUE:

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Babyface reissues: understanding nice stuff

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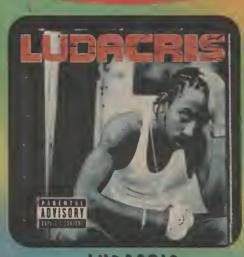


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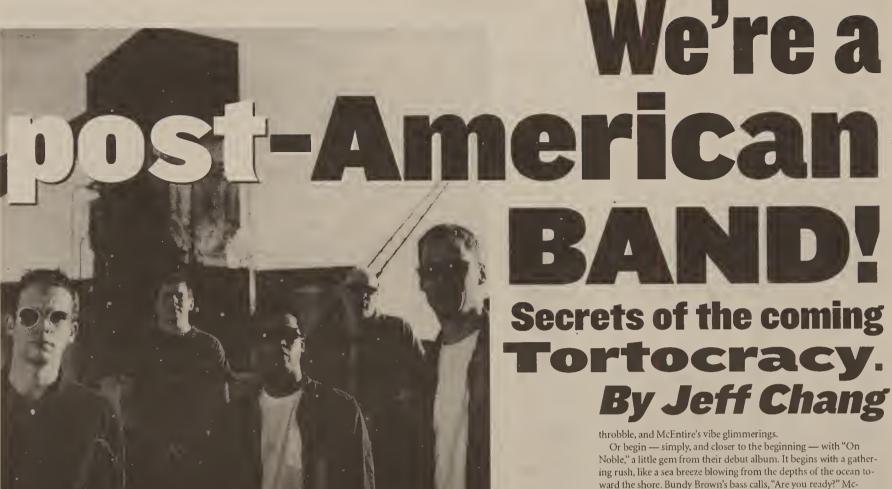
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14⁹⁸



The eve of destruction

Johnny Herndon is looking at one palm, then the other. Some people in the audience are pogo-dancing. He is screaming a very funny song into a microphone, an old new-wave Devo why-we-fight song about a dog who had two bones.

High Standards: The leaderless Tortoise produce abstracted compo

seemingly pulled from the subliminal slipstream.

"He picked up one, he licked the other," Herndon shouts. "He ran in circles, and he dropped dead!"

The band onstage — Isotope 217, a prominent node on the nodegrees-of-separation circle of affiliations that is Chicago's indie scene — includes three members of Tortoise (Herndon, Dan Bitney, and Jeff Parker), accomplished cornetist Rob Mazurek, and bassist Matt Lux. They usually don't inspire this kind of mild frenzy.

But right about now, 230 miles north of and 12 hours away from the opening of the presidential inauguration ceremonies and protests, in the basement of a red-bricked Greenwich Village beatnik den lined with revolutionary posters depicting Black Power and third world struggles, they are rocking the fuck out. Or post-rocking.

Guitarist Parker, the quiet jazzster who usually dispenses mindbending notes from a position of repose, is grimacing as he leans over and pounds his strings: Brrr-nrrr-nrrr-nrrrrnt!

"Freedom of choice! Is what you got!" Herndon bellows into the mic. "Freedom from choice! Is what you want!"

Behind the drum kit, Bitney brakes the slam, whipping the band back like a "Theme de Yoyo," signaling a squall of devolution. Mazurek's cornet and Lux's bass blare in free form; Bitney's cymbals flash and burn.

Illusions and fog juice. A false ending. An endless recount. Two unworthy princes wrestling over a supposed birthright. A petty spoiler raging in a corner of his own making. Choices, chads, chaos, addition, subtraction, tension. The bass line pulls out and straightens into an arrow.

Then it's all over in a second: brrr-nrrr-nrrr-nrrrrnt!

De-shelling

Tortoise's Standards also begins with a hot blast of smoke, epic notes from a band that normally warms slowly. "Seneca" is the name of the song, and it bursts through a fast-moving thunder of a drum break

into an aggressive reversioning of Al Anderson and Aston Familyman Barrett's introduction to Bob Marley's "Dem Belly Full." Openings into more openings.

Seneca is also the name of one of the six tribes of the Haudenosaunee, or the Iroquois League, whose methods of politics and diplomacy formed the marrow of the U.S. Constitution. On Seneca land, the young Americans signed the Canandaigua Treaty in 1794, one of the nation's first acts of state. Much of that land has long since been flooded by a dam, in capitulation to business interests, and the Haudenosaunee's descendants still fight the U.S. government to enforce their sovereign treaty.

Tortoise once named one of their songs "Whitewater." But their tour van is not sporting "Post-rock the Vote" bumper stickers. And they don't seem flag-waving types. Black Flag, maybe. But the American flag? Forget your sickness and dance.

Untethered by a frontman or by lyrics, their compositions are abstractions, seemingly pulled from the subliminal slipstream. Doug McCombs, who devised "Seneca" 's guitar riff, says he's never heard "Dem Belly Full." And Bitney, Herndon, and Parker have not yet learned most of the new album's song names. That process was also

By consensus, John McEntire was entrusted to finish the song naming and liner notes, using a master document of randomized words provided by Autechre. The result was an inscrutable mix of acronyms, conceptual noise, product numbers, and nonsense. Sample line: "CdC: Zen: Dead: GRU: M72750: Salsa: 7: Blowfish: Gorelic: Glock: WISDIM." Of such blather, if outfitted with the proper decoder ring, one perhaps might begin to uncork the secret of Tortoise.

Begin possibly with record digging. Parker and Herndon's big Champaign score: Bobby Timmons, Ornette Coleman, and Bill Evans. Or begin with music for the autobahn. On Bitney's personal mix tape: Jorge Ben, Raekwon, Curtis Mayfield, Max Romeo, Junior Murvin, '70s disco samba.

Or begin with Standards' "Six Pack," the sound of Parker's dubwised Black Flag bass line clashing with Bitney and Herndon's doubly funky-drummer, good-to-go Afrobeat, McCombs's surf-guitar

ward the shore. Bundy Brown's bass calls, "Are you ready?" Mc-Combs's bass responds, "Let's do this." They take flight, each tracing a distinctive circle around the other. Then a break, just a little check-

"How ya feel?"

"This is great, B!"

The basses plot the next journey, then take off again. By the end, they are finishing each other's sentences like Run-D.M.C. The wind blows up the face of the hills, and you, lucky listener, bask in the warmth of what has felt like one very interesting conversation. That was kind of how Tortoise connected with folks.

"I know this, the first time me and Jeff heard Tortoise, it was at the Empty Bottle," recalls Isotope 217's Lux, a jazz-trained Chicago house producer. "July 4th, 1994. Me and Parker were like, this is fucking burning! This is incredible — I've never heard no rock music like this!".

Three years earlier, guitarist Parker had fled Boston's Berklee College of Music — "I went a little too long, got really bitter," he says to earn a living as a jazz musician in Chicago. Through his clerk job at Tower Records, the soft-spoken Parker fell in with Lux and a vanguard of eclectic Northsiders. Parker's head was in bebop, his passion was Live Evil Miles, and his curiosity was now being piqued by the indie refugees onstage.

"Yeah, man, they just fucked me up, 'cause I had never really heard stuff like that. Like, these great songs, this weird dark side, but real pretty, man, totally beautiful," he recalls. "Back then it was mostly just two bass guitars and two drummers and Dan playing percussion, and they would augment it a little bit with vibes and melodica

"It was this really dark but wide-open and really beautiful sound, man." He pauses and shakes his head wistfully. "I couldn't really explain it."

Perhaps Tortoise could only have emerged in Chicago, in the Wicker Park neighborhood of the early '90s. Back pre-Missionification, the hood was an off-kilter latticework of European and Mexican firstgeneration storefronts, bustling cafés, edgy record stores, and typical Windy City diners and dives. The streets burst with creative energy, the record bins were well stocked with jazz, funk, dub, kraut rock, and hip-hop, and countless bars allowed musicians to play whatever they wanted long into the early hours as long as the bar tab was cov-

And in the polygamous, member-sharing orgy that has been Chicago's indie scene since the mid '90s, musicians formed as many Continued on page 4

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NOISE

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bands as they had musical interests. In Lux's words, "People may think they're gonna come see a show tonight, and maybe they feel gypped because it's only one different guy. Two bands, six people, but only one different guy."

In the beginning, you could trace a circle around the city with the bands, their members, and their styles: Rome, Trans Am, Sea and Cake, Eleventh Dream Day, Gastr del Sol, Bastro, Seam, Freakwater. Then the circle became a network: Red Krayola, Papa M, Isotope 217, Chicago Underground Duo, AACM, Brokeback, For Carnation, Directions in Music. Now it's a vast web spreading to the far ends: Anticon, Yo La Tengo, Autechre, U.N.K.L.E., Stereolab, Tom Zé, Nobukazu Takemura. It's a man of a virus culture, and its porosity feels unique.

"In New York you got all these sets, and you got many of the burningest cats in the world," Lux says. "But the jazz cats are all into the same thing, the rock cats are all into the same thing, and I don't think that there's a lot of cross-pollination."

"I'm probably the worst person to ask because I'm from Chicago," he adds. "But I don't see why it shouldn't happen anywhere else."

Passages

Johnny Herndon fled Asheville, a sleepy western Carolina mountain town in the backyard of Billy Graham's Christian study center, the kind of town whose airport has two terminals and one runway and whose taxi services all seem to be run by friendly senior citizens. He left town with his Mohawk and his drum kit and, almost immediately on arriving at O'Hare, found himself in a handful of bands, including the punkish Precious Wax Drippings, the Poster Children, and the funkish Uptighty.

Doug McCombs had fled Peakin, a downstate Illinois town so small that the top find on a Google search is a list of stores that sell Clif Bars. He enrolled at Loyola University as an art student. "I didn't stay very long," he says. "It was just an excuse to be in Chicago." Soon he was in Eleventh Dream Day.

Herndon and McCombs saw each other often as the Poster Children and Eleventh Dream Day gigged together. Both signed major-label deals. "The late '80s, early '90s was when people started to think that some of the kinds of bands that we were in could be commercially viable," McCombs says. "That was the work ethic that was in place at the time on the scene: you had your one band, and you'd work really, really hard at it."

But as the Pumpkins, Urge Overkill, and even Liz Phair signed and moved on to stardom or at least rabid fandom, Chicagoans began to wonder about the scene's natural limits. "It was a shift in attitude," McCombs says. "For me personally and a lot of other people I knew, it seemed the better way to expand your horizons as a musician was to try and be involved in a few different things and have different groups that explored different ideas."

Herndon and McCombs began recording, enlisting the aide of guitarist Bundy Brown and drummer John McEntire. They cut a droning single at Idful Studios that featured McCombs mumbling unintelligible lyrics. Then they decided that they had become a real group, with a real name (Mosquito, then Tortoise) and a real agenda. "There was a conscious effort to avoid loud guitars," Herndon says. "We were just like, 'If we're gonna do something, let's have it be something other than that.'"

They dropped vocals entirely. ("No one had any lyrics or any desire to sing," Herndon says.) More important, they concentrated their rhythm attack. They dropped their guitars and focused on their basses. They brought in Dan Bitney — another with hardcore punk roots who was fleeing the Madison, Wis., college-town ennui — and attained the polyrhythmic thumpability of a go-go band. Twiddlers McEntire and Brown went to work radically reshaping the sound. Suddenly they had distilled all the strengths of the emerging Northside scene: punkish passion, funky backbeats, DIY studio virtuosity, and a voracious, free-wheeling appetite for dope sounds.

Herndon, for one, was devouring indie hip-hop, discovering Mingus's *Black Saint and the Sinner Lady*, and digging weekly gigs of 8 Bold Souls and the black radical AACM

(Association for the Advancement of Creative Musicians). "I was like, 'Wow, this has all of that rawness and energy and power of all the stuff I love about punk rock, and it's beautifully complex and deeply rooted in blues, but also branching out to be its own thing.' And that was what really opened my ears," he says.

McCombs, Herndon, and McEntire became roommates, later joined by Jeff Parker, a member of AACM and soon to be a member of Tortoise. The infamous Grand Avenue Tortoise loft in Ukrainian Village, just a few bus stops south of Wicker Park, became a musical hothouse. They studied the drums and sonics of dub and hip-hop. They held turntable-side seminars.

"[McCombs] played me Television, God and Texas, the Minutemen, Beefheart," Parker says. "I turned them on to a lot of the Miles records, Ornette records."

"It was a really cool, intense time living in the loft, 'cause we would just bounce a lot of ideas off each other," he says.

And as the ideas blossomed, they developed a method.

Liberation, true democracy

The Tortoise-istas hate Simon Reynolds's tag "post-rock." To Herndon, "A lot of people were like, 'Oh, you guys are out to destroy rock and roll,' and, 'It's post-rock.' Blah blah blah. And it's like, no! I didn't throw out any of my AC/DC records. I still listen to them, and I still love 'em."

But there is one way they really do seem post-rock. In Lux's words, "To me, the greatest thing about Tortoise was the method of their shit. I had never encountered the method that they used to make music before — really great democracy, but yet structured. Like composition, but with five composers."

"Tortoise doesn't have ego," Bitney adds. "It's obvious it doesn't have a leader."

McCombs, who members say often triggers the songwriting, demurs, "I feel like Tortoise works best when we have a small kernel of an idea that is not well defined at all, when we all have this little thing that we can all hit back and forth until we have something that's greater, something that the group has created."

After touring extensively behind their critical breakthrough, Millions Now Living Will Never Die, Tortoise retreated to the loft, where McEntire had set up the first version of Soma Studio, and began work on TNT. Fragments of songs were recorded directly into the hard drive, and then they sat down to work out how to piece them together.

"None of those songs were songs before they were edited," Herndon says. "They were just like part A, part B, part A, part B, maybe a bridge, but nothing laid." The ProTools software suited Tortoise's nonlinear consensus-making, but process stretched method to its limit, and the album took a year to make.

For Standards, they developed and rehearsed ideas before even stepping into the studio. Then they broke down into Team A and Team B, one group finishing the recording for the day, the other plotting the arrangements for the next song to be recorded. "It was more like, let's make these decisions about this, and let's stick to them," Herndon says.

By way of diversion

During the '60s, radical movements seemed fired by charismatic young leaders: Tom Hayden for SDS, Stokely Carmichael for SNCC, Huey Newton for the Black Panthers. Then, in the '70s, small progressive and communist groups replaced the '70s rock-star radicals with centralized cells of cadres who would steer the masses. But since 1999's Battle of Seattle, a new paradigm has emerged. Last year's protests in Washington, D.C., and at the Republican and Democratic conventions were organized by vast national networks of so-called affinity groups.

These small teams — from everywhere, representing everything — band together in huge numbers to plan protests. They operate strictly by consensus. The process of having dozens of affinity groups agree to a plan can be frustrating, but once settled, the end result can be unstoppable. Power is decentralized, so that even if one affinity group is shut down, the actions can continue. It's akin to the spread of a virus: dropping its dead weight, filling the opponent's holes, moving by evasion and diversion. At the

Continued on page 7





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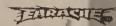


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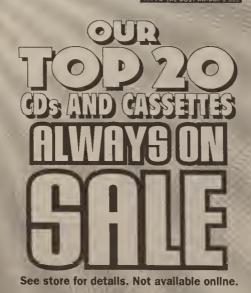
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NOISE

Tortocracy

From page 4

Republican Convention, the media didn't understand why so many protesters seemed to be pushing so many different causes at the same time. But the police couldn't prevent affinity groups from wreaking rush-hour havoc in intersections all across the central city, effectively shutting the place down. At dusk on the second night, Philly's downtown was deserted save for two cop cars, abandoned in the middle of the Ben Franklin Parkway, tires airless, bombed by buckets of yellow and red paint, covered with spray-painted tags reading, "Fuck the Police.

It was like Tortoise's music had just danced through the streets.

Johnny Herndon's normal speaking voice is a shade above a whisper: "I'm real curious about what people are gonna say about Standards, because it seems real different from the other

"It feels like, hmmmm, like a very direct record. Very, like, to the point. And," he pauses, "bombastic, in a way." And the album cover -Jasper Johns's American flags cut into diaphanous dotted triangles and squares, stratified by rigid bars of bloody Republican red — reads Statement with a capital Grand in exactly the way that bleached circles and fish-school swirls bleeding into paper or bored ink doodles on CD-R jackets do not. Johns's flags opened the Whitney's "American Century" exhibit. Standards opens the post-American century.

"For whatever reason, we've never actually talked about why our album has the cover it does - the flag concept," McCombs says. "Each member of the group probably has a different idea anyway.

That "flag concept" was McEntire's idea, McCombs says, "and the other four members of the band adopted that for their own reasons."

The music, of course, unfastens such loaded meanings. Take the lovely "Monica," a song that emerged from sound-checks of the 1999 tour backing Tom Zé. Possibly the height of the Torto-cratic method, both radiant and serrated, it is suffused with all the grit and glory of Detroit, the South Bronx, San Francisco, Kingston, Sao Paulo: omnidirectional memory, time-release entropy, an antimanifesto.

End, then, with Dan Bitney, the maker of the mix tapes to drive by, as the tour van pulls back onto the Interstate, past the Audubon Ballroom, the Motel Lorraine, and the grassy knoll. He's refuting any talk of conspiracy.

"We kinda get tagged with that. Especially talking to Germans, they just imagine we probably have meetings to map out, you know, mathematics, technology, and science. But nah, whatever," he chuckles.

'There's never a big concept really. There's never any type of concept." ❖

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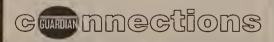
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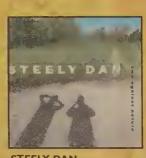


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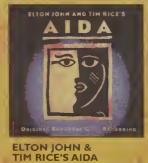


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Preaching to the choir

By Michelle Goldberg

aybe my hopes were too high. After all, you can't expect a record to fill some weird hole in your aesthetic life, to be the music that you've yearned for but never fully imagined. Still, I thought the new Le Tigre would be the one, the album that would unite my tastes and politics, speak right to me and make me feel, finally, understood.

Such dreams weren't entircly unfounded. Riot grrrl superwoman Kathleen Hanna came close to delivering the perfect piece of punkish electronic cut 'n' paste feminist agitprop with her 1998 Julie Ruin album. That record contained the same furious political passion that electrified Hanna's earlier work with the seminal riot grrrl band Bikini Kill but substituted clever new-wave production and sly, retro-femme iconography for Bikini Kill's bombastic DIY stridency. While Bikini Kill's fire-breathing rage was cathartic, the band's sound — loud, amateurish, screeching — grew tired far more quickly than its message did. With Julie Ruin, Hanna's style matured, though her politics remained gloriously fierce.

If anything, her emancipating words were more powerful than ever when couched in insinuating, sweet 'n' sour, stick-inyour-head melodies. No matter what your ideological affiliation, it would be hard not to be entranced by the woozy underwater groove and deadpan rapping of "I Wanna Know What " Is." Lost in the music, the words, a scathing screed against misogynist violence, sneak up on you. The song's ending, delivered by Hanna's pretty crystalline voice, is the ultimate riposte to all the priapic sociopaths, from Fred Durst to the Night Stalker, who would use force to keep girls in their place: "So I'll stay awake almost every night / A pen in my hand and in the other a knife /

Cuz l'd rather be scared and fight back / Than be some dick's maid, babe, or wife." The way she sang it, even John Ashcroft would nod along. What made the song wonderfully dangerous is the same thing that makes Eminem's rants threatening: it's so damn catchy you hardly realize you're internalizing the words. The contention that some of Eminem's apologists make, that you can separate the music from the message, belies the power of lyrics to echo in your head and burrow into your subconscious. If propaganda — the drilling repetition of ideas and master narratives — didn't work, why would nearly every government on the planet invest so much money in creating it? It only works, though, if it's diverting. That's why Hollywood movies about the glories of mat-

rimony and bourgeois consumption (from Pretty Woman to The Wedding Planner) are more effective than old Soviet films about noble peasants and voracious landlords.

Of course, Le Tigre, Kathleen Hanna's new band, isn't just a propaganda outfit. Nevertheless, on its debut in 1999, I was thrilled by the way it brought emancipated awareness to Go-Go's-style synth girlpop, name-checking grad student heroines like Gertrude Stein and Valie Export as well as punk pioneers like the Slits. The record was more personal than Hanna's other work, but its utterly right-on takes on exasperated urban womanhood were similarly liberating. And you

If the first Le Tigre album had a flaw, it was a roughness that never felt wholly intentional. Surely by the second record, I thought, the trio would tighten up and deliver something ferocious, lovely, and entirely innovative. Which, judging from the new EP From the Desk of Mr. Lady, was asking for too much. Le Tigre are what they are — three intensely smart women using music as a platform — not the subversive fantasy pop group I wish they were, one that could sneak into the consciousness of the unconverted. Hardcore Hanna fans will be thrilled by tracks like "Get off the Internet," with its screaming chorus, "Destroy the right wing!" The problem is that only hardcore

Hanna fans will really listen to this uneven mélange of turgid beats, tinny keyboards, and offhand vocals. Feminist musicians need to create sounds as invigorating as those backing their enemies. Otherwise, they'll just be singing to the converted. 🌣

Urgent and alive

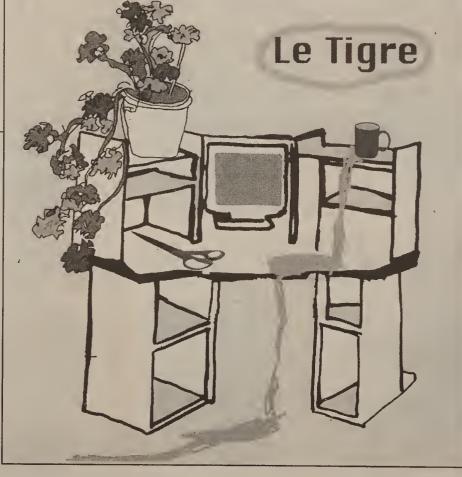
By Jimmy Draper

n typical Le Tigre style, From the Desk of Mr. Lady (Mr. Lady) opens with an all points bulletin regarding the current state of feminist politics: "It feels so '80s or early '90s to be political ... Nothing has changed." Sung Stepford wives-style over an electro-aerobics beat, the trio's zonked-out monotones are an apt metaphor for the band's disappointment with unchanging public reaction to political women in the decade since riot grrrl. It's a disillusionment shared by anyone today who, after witnessing the blatantly sexist response to that early-'90s feminist-punk movement, hoped that 10 years down the road our society would have overcome such retro-

When riot grrrl brought sexual politics to punk's forefront in '91, one intent was to critique our culture's intense hostility toward women, especially those demanding rights and respect. While male bands such as Fugazi and Nirvana garnered respect for their politics, women rarely received anything but condescending skepticism. So when Bikini Kill rallied for "Revolution Girl-Style Now!" and Bratmobile tsk-tsked cool-boy cliques, many dumbshit, dimwit guys - who were too comfortable with the status quo to acknowledge their scene's misogyny — indignantly cried reverse sexism. Others responded with physical threats and assaults, or by putting pen to paper and using zines to dismiss riot grrrls as fakers, 'whores," and, most incredibly, comparable to Hitler.

Along with the insta-sexist reaction from so many of riot grrrls' punk peers, the mainstream joined the fray in '92, all but outright declaring a backlash ripped from the pages of the media's antifeminist free-for-all of the late '60s and '70s. In publications from USA Today to Spin, riot grrrl was ridiculed, infantilized, and criticized as a cutesy fashion statement, with journalists declaring the bands incompetent, the politics absurd, and the movement DOA. All of this despite chapters forming worldwide and countless women starting zines, bands, and activist groups.

Political women have always faced harsher criticism than their male



counterparts, and musicians are certainly no exception. Remember the reprimands Sinéad O'Connor received after ripping up the Pope's photo? What about the numerous uproars surrounding Yoko Ono? Madonna? The list is endless and endlessly growing: both Pearl Jam and the Beastie Boys have been praised extensively for their political efforts (Ticketmaster and Free Tibet, respectively), yet ex-Bikini Kill member Kathleen Hanna is still dismissed in some quarters as hysterical or paranoid for asserting that sexism exists.

In fact, it was Hanna — now one-third of Le Tigre — who received the brunt of the backlash against riot grrrl, becoming another example of how our culture treats women who are "too vocal." Such sexist, antipolitical hostilities weren't left in the early '90s, either: not only has blatant musical misogyny recently returned to the top of the pops, but journalists continue ridiculing women making feminist music. In Hanna's post-riot grrrl days, for instance, Robert Christgau criticized Hanna's messages, saying, "She's 29, and she needs to move on"; likewise, Seattle's The Stranger accused Hanna of acting "like your ass is too precious for the subway." Compare such nasty criticism with the rhetoric surrounding riot grrrl, and it's disturbing to see just how little the responses to political, musical women have changed.

All of which makes Le Tigre's new seven-song EP even more exciting, necessary, and urgent. While it's considered "hip" these days to claim that feminism is passé and that art should 'transcend" gender, this New York City trio -Hanna, Johanna Fateman, and new member J.D. Samson - makes politics refreshingly explicit by directly addressing our society's gender-based reactions toward feminist art and activisms. Opening with a call to arms to repoliticize friends and fans, the 17 jittering, skittering minutes of From the Desk confront

the ever present misogyny that many people claim was eradicated years ago. Never stopping to catch its breath or watch its back, the trio indicts everyone from well-intentioned assholes ("Yr Critique," "Mediocrity Rules") to oblivious sexists ("Gone B4 Yr Home") with an off-center, on-target precision that's both fun(ny) and unjaded.

The EP's most powerful moment is "They Want Us to Make a Symphony Out of the Sound of Women Swallowing Their Own Tongues," in which a clueless male asks what women today struggle against now that "the options are not as narrow as they might have been 30 years ago." When the woman's response begins with "Uh," the band loops her hesitation into a stuttering, sputtering dance beat, creating a chilling example of how society attempts to make women look uneducated and not credible when insisting that life for women ain't as gosh-darned great and liberated as they're told. Faced with such intensely sexist opposition in a increasingly hostile society, Le Tigre's unabashedly feminist perspective is, like riot grrrl's 10 years ago, the sound of a revolution. 🌣



BAY AREA'S BIGGEST & BEST INDEPENDENT RECORD STORE

NOISE - February 2001

PESIONS SESIONS

Allen Clapp and the Orange Peels are back in San Francisco. By John O'Neill

Here among the poppy-covered hills, where purplish shadows cast their tinge upon the eucalyptus aisles, where palm and cypress stand out upon the ocean cliffs, a new art springs to the bosons.

Willis Jefferson Polk

I don't know about art but I know what I like.

Lux Interior

ostwar California — the slice of the West Coast pie best known to the rest of the globe — came with a soundtrack. Despite regional variants (appropriately reflected on the radio dial), it was ultimately the SoCal sound that the rest of the world would define as "California." Surf culture, hot rods, the warmth of the sun — all infused with a giddy hopefulness. While tribute is still paid to that era through a kitschy grab bag of car clubs, dance nights, surf bands, and grave-robbing revivalists, peninsula pop phenomenon the Orange Peels are out to prove that the "California sound" that marked the era is still a vital art form.

"We don't consider ourselves a San Francisco band, or a San Jose band or an L.A. band," says Peels frontal lobe and founder Allen Clapp from his home in Sunnyvale. "I think if anything, we want to identify with being a California band. We know what it's like to live here and to work here, and with our music we're saying that this is what it sounds like to live here, if that makes sense. It's the whole thing of living in the Bay Area, which is my favorite spot in the world. You have these beautiful hiking spots, and you can drive into the city and it's a completely different world. Being so close to all this other stuff affects the way you see things."

Raised on the radio

Since falling under the spell of AM radio and mid '60s—early '70s pop as a kid, Clapp has spent the better part of his adult life attempting to build on the framework of his heroes. He enlisted the help of high school buddy guitarist Larry Winther for after-school sessions, beginning a long-standing, on-again, off-again collaboration. "We'd get together and make hours and hours of tape, all of which were crap," Winther said. "It would take Allen 20 minutes to get the sound he wanted on the keyboards, then we'd play a bit, and he'd spend another 20 minutes getting the next sound. We never had good enough equipment to do what we wanted to, and we pretty much trashed Allen's songs 'cause we sucked."

Eventually Winther, looking to explore the more rocking side of the street, moved out of the neighborhood, and in the early '90s he formed the Mummies, one of the area's all-time great cult bands. Clapp headed back to his Redwood City bedroom and began making home recordings of his compositions. His first shot across the bow of the underground consciousness came in 1994 when his homemade demos were released as *One Hundred Percent Chance of Rain*, by Allen Clapp and His Orchestra, on the tiny Bus Stop label.

Recorded to four-track at the height of the indie lo-fi craze, *Rain* went on to win its share of praise (and has since been rereleased by Bus Stop). At the time, many listeners missed a critical aspect of the recording: the majority of CMJ Nation was relatively well funded; recording on the cheap was done as a frivolous goof, while Clapp was forced to do so by necessity. So while *Rain* was lumped in with the tongue-in-cheek triteness of his more popular contemporaries, it ultimately showed a serious pop songwriter forced to record songs that required a fuller sound to be effective.

The Munmies, after a successful campaign of kicking ass and making enemies, eventually decided that it was time to turn in their bandage. Though still spoken of with reverence among garage rock fans and record collector geeks, the joke had gone on long enough, and according to Winther "it was beginning to feel like work. There was really no place else to take it. The first tour of Europe was

nice, but the second was like twice as many dates in the same amount of time. And we were never going to make money. I moved back to the area and called Allen up. I started playing with Allen and Jill [Pries, the lone holdover from the Orchestra sessions], and originally we had Mazz from the Mummies to play guitar."

Introducing the Orange Peels

After some fine-tuning, ex-Cerebral Corpse hotshot Bob Vickers was tapped as a fourth member, and, with interest from Chicago's Minty Fresh Records, Clapp reemerged with his new outfit, the Orange Peels. Their debut disc, Square, was released in 1997 and showed Clapp continuing his experimentation with updating the West Coast sound, this time with the muscle of a band of multiinstrumentalists. Drawing on influences as varied as Burt Bacharach, Carole King, Brian Wilson, and British Invasion rock, the Orange Peels got an extra boost from Winther's involvement with the writing process. Spacedout surf guitar and spaghetti-style tremolo spiked Clapp's pure shots of aural sunshine. Recorded on a shoestring budget in a Minnesota studio and in Clapp's twobedroom apartment, the album's pure melodies and charming atmosphere garnered two Bammie nominations

"We were up against Third Eye Blind and Smash Mouth, and everybody had a video clip," Winther says. "When they got to us, it was a black-and-white promo picture that they moved around." Not enamored in the least with the concept of falling into the local club scene, the Orange Peels pulled a disappearing act. They returned to their day jobs and prepared for the next album and a three-year stretch of relative inactivity.

"You can be part of the crazy drama [the local scene] is,



February 2001

or you can make good music," Winther says. If Clapp is the brains behind the Orange Peels, then Winther is the balls — as well as playing the outfit's resident smartass. "When you're a pop band, you always get a bad rap. It was that way when I was in Washington, D.C., but there are always those people who like the music. We aren't into a scene. Frankly we could care less. When you think about it, it's not that important. We've got lives."

"It takes us about three years, and it's a good thing for us," Clapp adds, explaining the band's sluggish pace. "Some bands are capable of putting out a really good album every year, and some bands put out a great one every three years and still put out one every year anyway. If it takes us three years, it's worth it in the long run. We won't put a song on our album if we can't hear it on the radio. We just all kind of know if it's right when we're playing and we think, 'Oh yeah, I could hear that on the transistor radio.'"

Taking time

Working their way up the label ladder, they signed on with New York's spinART Records (home to Apples in Stereo, Creeper Lagoon, John Doe, Jason Faulkner, and the Wedding Present), which released their latest, So Far, this week. The road to the new album, another addition to an already impressive body of work, was as rocky as it was time-consuming. Winther packed his guitar and walked, and the band became a trio, before adding vet John Moreman (Jad Fair, Half Japanese, Neighbors), although it sometimes was still a trio because Vickers had a new baby to take care of. And shortly before the master tapes were due in Japan — Winther made it a five-piece when he returned to rerecord some guitar parts. While this type of chair swapping might do most bands in, it gave the Peels four (of five, Pries plays only bass) members able to swap instruments — guitars, key-

The band's sound was enhanced when Clapp took production seat and moved his studio out of his apartment bedroom to the house he now shares with Pries — designed appropriately enough by tract-housing visionary Joseph Eichler. A firm believer that anyone should be able to own a piece of the dream at an affordable price, Eichler took an early design of Frank Lloyd Wright — featuring such novelties as atriums, indoor-outdoor living, and radiant heat and emphasizing bold design — and built 11,000 singlefamily houses in northern California. The coincidence isn't lost on Clapp, who readily admits, "There's a crazy optimism about these places. Having windows for walls, making the outside the inside. It's a little sad. It's a past vision of what the future would look like that never came true. These guys thought they were going to change the world. I can identify, I don't think we can change the world with our music, but if we didn't try, there wouldn't be a point."

And the point of So Far isn't so far removed from the ideal that people like Eichler were daring to dream. It's a deeply personal album full of duel harmonies, wet reverb, juxtaposed guitar chords, and wonderfully unaltered blemishes; So Far has too many fine moments to contemplate all in one rush. In a period in which contemporary music is happy to shill a hit-doctor single while filling up the rest of an album with 72 minutes of abject garbage, the Orange Peels took great care in crafting an album — a great traditional pop album. There's no "twee" references to blowing snot bubbles and eating Twinkies in the rec room, nor the wink-and-nudge coyness and quirk that defines too much of what qualifies for modern guitar pop.

Instead the band trades strictly in timeless solid structure and lush harmony. While the lyrics are almost as insular as the band itself (the how-couldyou-leave-me "Your So Clever" is an open letter to Winther to not split the band, and the lucky-guy vibe of "Mystery Lawn" is dedicated to Pries), the real ton of bricks comes with the realization that the unifying factor — and 4 of the 11 songs — aren't boy-loves-girl fodder but a conflicted Clapp struggling to come to grips with Silicon Valley and California today.

On the album's opener, "Back in San Francisco," he jumps out to give the city a quick kiss-off — "It's just no good to go back there crying / But don't discourage me from trying / I must have been confused by shallow smiles and hollow hellos / Back in San Francisco" — only to admit that he's lost without "his first / His last / His only." The thread continues as a secondary link on the title cut and comes on full again with the love/hate "Redwood City" — perhaps the finest ode ever devoted to living in a prosaic suburb. The terrific "Every Single Thing," the only remotely bitter tune, looks back at the broken promise of the postwar dream through the evaporation of

"The West Coast Rain" — the final song and masterstroke — ties So Far together. With compressed drums and bass pushed out front in a budget tribute to Hal Blaine and the Wrecking Crew, the Orange Peels touch the Phil Specter wall of sound, classic surf structure, Beach Boys chamber pop, and the rich vocals that defined the later Cali sound.

The Orange Peels, taking the classic '60s pop tradition on its own terms, are writing another chapter — while exploring promises that the mythological California dream could never make good on. If Brian Wilson was indeed asking about the loss of innocence on "Caroline, No," the Orange Peels are providing an answer. Innocence isn't lost; it's just holding its breath and waiting for a second chance. ❖

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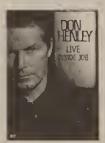


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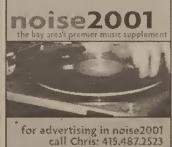
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Cettin' high o column about 12-inch singles would be complete without paying homage to one of the classics, perhaps the greatest classic in all the world of music (as well as an allusion to one of my previous tasks he at the Bay Guardian). I heard it while nodding my head furiously (ye

TECHNIQUES BY MOSI REEV

o column about 12-inch singles would be complete without paying homage to one of the classics, perhaps the greatest classic in all the world of music (as well as an allusion to one of my previous tasks here at the Bay Guardian). I heard it while nodding my head furiously (yeah, I don't dance at clubs, so what?) at "Sisterz of the Underground," this fresh b-girl showcase that took place at the Justice League a couple of weeks ago. DJ Mai-lee was rocking all of the favorites off this album, and people were crazy reminiscing to joints like "Passin' Me By" and "Return of the B-Boy." Yeeeeeah, I'm talking about the **Pharcyde**'s BizarreRideIIThePharcyde (Four Music, www.fourmusic.com), and if you don't have it on vinyl, run to the record store and pick up a copy! It doesn't have the fish-eye-lens labels and colored vinyl of the 1993 original, but it does rock a gatefold sleeve containing the original liner notes, filled with shout-outs like Slim Kid Tre's dedication "to this crazy ass fucked up industry, who won't remember me when I fall the fuck off." Now, how true is that? Thank the Germans for this reissue.

OK, so let's get down to the new shit, or relatively new shit. It's kinda slow around the industry right now, and since everyone is recovering from the holidays, there's not much "hot off the presses" product out there. So I'll start off with the stuff you should already have. I'm assuming you picked up the **Lootpack**'s "Weededed" remix backed with "Loopdigga" and the *Madlib Invazion* EP 7-inch (Stones Throw, www.stonesthrow.com). I have the former but not the latter. Since we're talking about tasty breakbeats, I might as well mention that **J-Zone** has a collection of instrumentals out that pairs his first two EPs, *Music for Tu Madre* and *A Bottle of Whup Ass* (Old Maid Entertainment, www.zonesite.net). I'm not a big fan of J-Zone, but his joints are somewhat amusing. I really sympathized with that "Just Friends" skit he did, but let's not go

Looking for that hot shit? We don't do hot shit here. But **Alchemist**'s *Gangster Theme Music* (AL Music Recorded Library) comes pretty fucking close. It features instrumentals of some of his better-known productions, like the beats for Mobb Deep's "The Realest" and the Terror Squad's "Bring It On." All of them clock out at three minutes, so this is some shit you can just sit back and listen to, or c-c-cut it up, if you feel so inclined.

Half of these rap kids just need to put out with no raps on it anyway, know what I mean? But yo, another record worth picking up is **DJ Presto**'s *Breaking Concrete* (Concrete Groove, www.concretegrooves.com). Yeah, you read about this Los Angeles cat in *XLR8R* and were like, "Gee, I don't know. Isn't this a techno magazine?" Well, don't sleep, dog. Presto comes nice with grand groove wizardry. It's some of that golden-era Pete Rock—type shit that sounds oh so lovely when you're getting high.

For the boom bap heads, check out **Heltah Skeltah**'s "The Crab Inn" backed with "Caca Gosa Vixen" (Fat Beats, www.fatbeats.com), both of which feature production from Blahzay Blahzay producer PF Cuttin (remember "Danger"?). According to HipHopSite.com, these two tracks are outtakes from the Bucktown duo's sophomore album, *Magnum Force*, which makes sense because the single definitely has that late-'90s "I'll kill you in the cipher" vibe everyone was rocking around then. "Caca Gosa Vixen" is essential; it swings off a violin sample that sounds like Heltah Skeltah is just servin' motherfuckers. **Edan** and company also bring you the raw shit on "Rapperfection" backed with "You Suck" and "Syllable Practice" (Sun Moon, www.sunmoonrecords.com). It's crusty and dirty like an old cassette that you've saved because it has all the jams on it, even though the tape's all warped from years of abuse.

Finally, on the local tip, peep Terracotta Troupe's collabo with Z-Trip and Del the Funky Homosapien, "Dynasty" backed with "Monster" (Revolg, www.e22.com), for Z-Trip's funky remix of "Dynasty." And why are you sleeping on Oaktown MC Kubiq's "Neva U" backed with "2K" (Heratik, www.heratik.com)?

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fter listening closely to my wife, the pastor at my church, and the basset hound-looking brother lounging outside Rudy's Rib Shack last Friday night, something became clearer to me than ever before: there's more to the idea of owning "nice stuff" than just the stuff itself. Which in turn made me understand better why nearly every black person over the age of 30 in my part of Pinellas County, Fla., loves Babyface.

An acquaintance of mine, Spin magazine editor-in-chief Alan Light, once described contemporary R&B as "the least respected form of music out there." In many critical circles, this is true. Despite the fact that every generation or so somebody comes along who is "ruining" the music, to me R&B has a kind of self-regenerating virginity. In high school, one of my classmates claimed that Harold Melvin and the Blue Notes were killing R&B by making people think disco was R&B. The '80s version of the story was that anybody using a drum machine was accomplishing the same feat which seems odd, when you look back at the work of, say, Levert. And in the '90s, Babyface - a phenomenally successful singersongwriter-producer with credits from TLC to Toni Braxton — was

dows. In the integrated but still largely white subdivision where my wife and I live, some white residents are protesting the construction of

After listening to the recent reissues on Epic/ Legend of four Babyface

albums, the complaining

seems as quaintly misin-

formed as that of past

why. More important, I

ing and renovation un-

There is a lot of build-

derway where I live. In the

all-black area to the west, where my wife's family

lives, the county is putting

up new buildings and

paving roads that were

formerly dirt. Residents

are being offered the op-

portunity to own upgrad-

ed, affordable homes. The

white neighborhoods to

either side are objecting,

saying that the houses are

being built too high

- potentially allowing

residents of the newly up-

the white residents' win-

graded homes to look into

decades. And I know

see why.

The assistant pastor spoke of how we need to go to the various area meetings and speak up for "our kids and our community." My wife and the basset hound brother, on the other hand, feel that the seemingly bizarre concerns are beyond logical discussion. "White folks just can't stand to see us with nice stuff," my wife says.

an athletic facility on a strip of land a block to the west.

Which, of course, brings me back to Babyface. I have to admit that it took me a while before I could allow myself to like him. When I moved down South, full of talented tenth-ish arguments about the state of black musical appreciation ("Why is it that more black people know who Guy is than John Coltrane?"), I was fond of casting Babyface's immaculately crafted soul pop as nothing less than a pox on modern black music. Where was the struggle? The messages of uplift? The authenticity of the blues, the immediacy of the funk?

'Whip Appeal"? "I Love You Babe"? Nothing but well-tailored, corporate negro/Essence magazine/bourgie conformism. Interesting, but lightweight, serving no purpose other than the satisfaction of ephemeral pleasures, indicative of the emptiness of a black consumer

By Tony Green culture that sacrificed meaningful concerns in the pursuit of "nice

Learning to love Babyface.

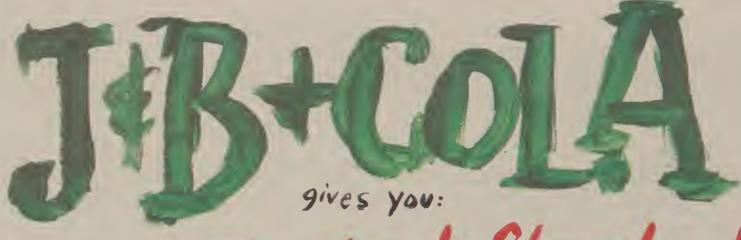
Looking back, I realize that if I hadn't once held these beliefs, I would never know today how half-baked a lot of them are. And I wouldn't know what to say when people ask me why I've been fiending for Epic's Babyface reissues since I first heard they were coming out late last year. I have realized that in this place, in this time, at the dawn of the Dubya era, it's damn hard to begrudge a black man, woman, or child the desire to have something nice.

I admit I should have understood this from the beginning. My inlaws lived the life of working-class black people in the Deep South in the middle of the century, eventually saving enough money to send three kids to college (without loans, no less), build a house, and have enough left over to modestly enjoy themselves. I'd have a hard time telling them that their immaculately arranged furniture, big-screen television and tank-size SUV (which I am warned by my wife not even to brush into when her pop is watching) is representative of a disconnect from their blackness. I mean, I guess somebody could; it just wouldn't be me. Before anyone got a chance to hear what I had to say, I'd get an earful from my wife.

She'd say that having nice stuff isn't always about flossing or shining or materialism or ego or competition, at least not from her point of view. That, more often than you think, it's about having nice stuff "because of," "in spite of." That her desire to upgrade her slovenly husband's appearance is "because of" the fact that being déclassé signifies aloofness only if you're white. She'd tell you that her parents have their cars, TV, and furniture "in spite of" the fact that they lived most of their adult lives as second-class citizens. That her desire for a nice car stems from the fact that within the framework of what's possible, it's the most effective way for her to tell the folks bitching about the athletic facility, the community upgrades, and about "too many of them" employed where she works, to kiss her ass. And, most important, that even if she didn't have to deal with all that bullshit, even if she lived in the idealized, race-neutral society some mealymouthed public figures insist is a fully realized fact, that she and her family would still like nice stuff just because there is no good reason for them not to.

Which isn't to say that "Everytime I Close My Eyes" is a call to arms. Or politically significant, aesthetically adventurous, a slap in the face of white America, or anything else. And it doesn't mean that my wife, inlaws, and extended family and friends listen to nothing but pop R&B tunes — their tastes run all over the place. It's just that they don't see any good reason not to like music that is nothing more or less than what it says it is: hook-heavy, eminently hummable, shamelessly enjoyable pop music. Love songs, ballads, new jack swing-immaculate dance tunes, with obsessive attention to detail, form, song craft, and sweetening texture. And if you have to ask why Babyface's music exists in such a grit-free environment, you probably don't understand the point of my mother-in-law's living room or my late grandmother's old show table. And you definitely don't understand why my electrician fatherin-law likes Herb Alpert as much as he likes Buddy Guy. Or why to folks where I live, and to a lot of other people like them, hearing nice stuff is often the next best thing to having it. .

NOISE . February 2001



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cubana, brought jazzy textures and a crooner's romanticism to the island nation's music scene. A star of the infamous nightclub El Palacio de la Salsa, he joined the pioneer fusion band Opus 13 in 1992 and brought with him street-based ideas that drew from rap, rumba, and reggae. The masterful singersongwriter has a suave

pop quality, topped by a voice with superb strength and intonation, and his debut with the group gave root to a brand of Cuban salsa called timba. A few months after, the group evolved into Paulito y Su Elite. They forged associations with

Magic Music of Spain and the late Jerry Massucci and his Nueva Fania Records, gaining wide acceptance. Now Paulito and the crew are searching out new pastures, bringing their sounds into the newly opened Kimball's Carnival for their Bay Area debut. Through Sun/11. 9 p.m., Kimball's Carnival, 522 Second St., Oakl. \$20. (510) 444-6979. (Chuy Varela)

Wild and crazy The man who launched a thousand a-dognamed-shithead jokes fancies himself a fiction writer these days. Steve Martin is in town to read from and discuss his new novella, Shop Girl, a story about romantic angst in L.A. During his 30-plus years in showbiz, Martin has written and acted in a huge number of films, including his 1979 masterpiece The Jerk. He's also well known for his turns on Saturday Night Live, especially his memorable musical homage to King Tut. In recent years Martin's interests have turned toward more high-brow pursuits: in 1993 he wrote the play Picasso at the Lapin Agile, and he is a frequent contributor to the New York Times and the New Yorker (although he isn't above engaging in a little slapstick to pay the rent — see 1999's Bowfinger). 8 p.m. Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness, S.F. \$20. (415) 392-4400. (Debbie Berne)

Feb. 10 Saturday

Greetings Champagne, streamers, and Dick Clark have little significance in Tibet, where the Lunar New Year, or "Losar," is celebrated with traditions that predate even the World's Oldest Teenager. The Asian Art Museum hosts its annual Losar — Tibetan New Year Celebration, a family festival that features a musical program by the Chaksam-Pa Tibetan Dance and Opera Company, a local group dedicated to preserving Tibetan performing arts. Chaksam-Pa encourages audience participation as it sings, dances, makes a ceremonial "good luck" offering, and builds good karma with a circle dance, or gorshae. Storytellers relate traditional tales to objects in the museum's Himalayan Gallery, and kids can join a treasure hunt and make their own prayer flags. Noon-3 p.m., Gruhn Court, Asian Art Museum, 75 Hagiwara Tea Garden Drive, Golden Gate Park, S.F. Free with museum admission (\$4-\$7). (415) 379-8879. (Cheryl Eddy)

Desert poetry The term world music doesn't begin to do justice to the depth and richness of the classical and folk traditions of other cultures, and the pop marketing efforts associated with it often deflect our attention away from exquisite sounds otherwise too "foreign" for trendy boutique anthologies. Eventually, though, almost everything comes to light on this shrinking planet, including the wondrous Persian music performed by singer Mohammad Reza Shajarian and kamancheh (spiked fiddle) virtuoso Kayhan Kalhor. Their recent recording, Night Silence Desert (Traditional Crossroads) picks up where Kalhor's multicultural ensemble Ghazal left off in terms of building an audience for previously underappreciated sounds and Sufi poetry. On their unprecedented 'Masters of Persian Music' tour they are joined by tar (plucked lute) virtuoso Hossein Alizadeh and tombek (goblet drum) master Homayoun Shajarian, performing all new compositions rooted in the ancient classical repertoire. 8 p.m., UC Berkeley, Zellerbach Hall, Berk. \$20-\$40. (510) 642-9988. (Derk Richardson)

Feb. 11 Sunday

Cat's cradle New Yorkbased singer-songwriter Jen Chapin brings her brand of urban folk to the Bay Area. Deeply rooted in her family's legacy of musical tradition and political activism, Chapin not surprisingly decided to follow in her father Harry's footsteps, fusing her passion for folk music with her humanitarian spirit and becoming a board member of the organization her father helped establish, World Hunger Year, After recording a debut EP and the live full-length Jen Chapin Live at the Bitter End at her favorite Greenwich Village haunt, this coffeehouse songstress was the recent winner of an upand-coming musician search sponsored by Oxygen Media, which landed her a demo deal with V2 Records. Now Chapin takes her bluesy folk outfit on the road, playing in intimate settings where she's sure to feel right at home. Amy Meyers and Liz Anah open. 8:30 p.m., Hotel Utah, 550 Fourth St., S.F. \$4-\$5. (415) 546-6300. (Chapin also opens for Bob Franke tonight, 8 p.m., Freight and Salvage, 1111 Addison, Berk. \$16.50-\$17.50. 510-548-7603.) (Sabrina Crawford)

Feb. 12 Monday

Lonesome town Theatre of Yugen's monthly Yugen Presents shows prevent arts fans from collapsing into television-induced comas on Monday. and Tuesday nights. In February the series presents Butoh solo artist Judith Kajiwara in collaboration with composer Michael Kobayashi and lighting and visual artist Cary Matsumura. Kajiwara performs 'Samishii' (Japanese for "to be lonely"), an exploration of the bicultural experience of a thirdgeneration Japanese American man. Butoh is a powerful, effective medium for conjuring loneliness, and Kajiwara tells the story of her character with the help of voicescapes and haunting melodies. Also Tues/13, Fri/16-Sat/17, 8 p.m., Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa, S.F. \$10-\$15. (415) 621-7978. (Sima Belmar)

Feb. 13 Tuesday

Sugar, ah honey, honey I used to like Valentine's Day. When I was little, I looked forward to trading paper cut-out cards and candy with classmates, even with the boys I thought were yucky. But nowadays no one wants to trade cards with me, and no one's ever taken the effort to "be mine." Still, it's hard to denounce the day without feeling like a bitter, lonely bitch. The seventh annual presentation of 'My Sucky Valentine' is the perfect alternative to V-Day for people like me. Rather than reveling in love and romance, renowned erotica writers such as Thomas Roche, Carol Queen, M. Christian, Simon Sheppard, and Michelle Tea read from works about broken hearts, lousy lays, and twotiming tramps. Proceeds from tonight's performance benefit San Francisco Sex Information, a free sex

referral hotline. 8 p.m., Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th St., S.F. \$12-\$20. (415) 989-7374. (Sarah Han)

Red hot Why bother with the . boring old quiet-candlelit-dinnerfor-two routine when Valentine Loveless and her Cantankerous Lollies are bumping, grinding, and headlining the St. Valentine's Big Burlesque Variety Show? This year spend Valentine's eve getting your fill of exotic vaudeville cabaret. MC Mad V. Dog steers this bawdy show through belly dancing, can-can dancing, comedy, magic tricks, and contortion. Thrill! as Kaotica du Flambeau balances flaming batons on her head. Marvel! as Aloha Betty shows why she's "the best lei on the south seas." Hear! the tunes of the ivory-ticklin' Kitten on the Keys and the Fisherman's Famous Burlesque Orchestra. Shudder! at how boring your evening would have been if you'd stayed home and watched 3rd Rock from the Sun instead. 9:30 p.m., Odeon, 3223 Mission, S.F. \$7. (415) 550-6994. (Crawford)

Feb. 14 Wednesday

Here's the story Local improv superheroes Bay Area Theatresports tackle that most complicated of subjects - modern love in their new Valentine's-themed show, 'How We First Met.' This is spontaneous entertainment with a twist: Before they start improvising, the BATS will conduct live interviews with real-life couples to find out what happened to cause those first sparks to fly. Then they'll take to the stage to reenact each love connection. If you and your honeybunch have a great I-methim/her-at-the-candy store/laundromat/karaoke bar/emergency room/DMV/personal ads, BATS is still looking for material, and direc-



tor Jill Bourque (reach her at 415-505-5660) welcomes input from gay and straight couples and individuals. 8 p.m., Bayfront Theater, Fort Mason, Bldg. B, Third floor, Marina at Laguna, S.F. \$15-\$20. (415) 474-8935 (show info); (510) 601-TWEB, www.ticketweb.com (tickets). (Eddy)

The Bay Guardian listings deadline is two weeks prior to our Wednesday publication date. To submit an item for consideration, please include the title of the event; date and time; venue name; street address (listing cross streets only is not sufficient); city; telephone number readers can call for more information; telephone number for media: admission costs: and a brief description of the event. Send information to Listings, 520 Hampshire, S.F. 94110; fax to (415) 487-2506 or e-mail to listings @sfbg.com. We cannot guarantee the return of photos, but enclosing an SASE helps. We regret we cannot accept listings over the phone.

Hot spot



The aisles are alive: Slip on your von Trapp drag, be it habit or curtain, and skip on down to the Castro for "Sing-A-Long Sound of Music." Pictured here are Charmian Carr as Liesel and a Sister of Perpetual Indulgence.

If you've been reprimanded one too many times for singing in the abbey, find like-minded "problems" at the one and only 'Sing-A-Long Sound of Music.' Now in its third year of touring, this interactive musical extravaganza makes its Bay Area debut at — where else? — the Castro. San Francisco's hills'll be alive when master vodelers. starlit sopranos, and those who can barely carry a tune join voices with the world's favorite musical family, the von Trapps. Here's how it works: the film plays as usual, but when Julie Andrews and company burst into song, karaoke-style subtitles appear on-screen. Expect a lot of Rocky Horrorstyle audience participation between numbers, too. Costumes are strongly encouraged (lederhosen! gazebo! lonely goatherd! crisp apple strudel!), and a variety of prizes will be awarded to those who go the extra mile. The Sing-A-Long's premiere screening Thurs/8 is a gala benefit for Frameline's funding, promotion, and distribution

of lesbian and gay films and videos. Fri/16 kicks off a two-week run — enough time to come dressed as each von Trapp child twice, plus the Captain and Maria, too. Benefit Thurs/8, 7 p.m.; regular run Feb. 16-March 1, 7:30 p.m. (also Sat.-Sun. and Mon/18, 2 p.m.), Castro Theatre, 429 Castro, S.F. Benefit \$45, regular run \$10-\$22.50, (510) 601-TWEB, www.ticketweb.com; (415) 703-8620 (benefit only). (Sabrina Crawford)





valentine's day listings calendar



Love bites

By Cheryl Eddy

weet Feb. 14 — the flowers, the chocolates, the stuffed gorillas that sing "Wild Thing," the 30-packs of Britney Spears cards with matching envelopes and stickers. If the fuzziest holiday in the Hallmark nation makes you want to drown your sorrows in Russell Stovers, at least you're better off than the original Valentine, a priest in ancient Rome who was imprisoned, stoned, and then beheaded for performing secret weddings. Shot through the heart? Wild at heart? Lookin' for a heartbeat? Read on: there's something for everyone in our Bay Area guide to all things Valentine.

parties <u>and events</u>

'Cupid's Embrace' Celebrate Valentine's Day the X-plicit Players way at a special "nude rit-ual" event. Fri/16–Sat/17, 7:30 p.m., New Col-lege Cultural Center, 766 Valencia, S.F. \$15. (510) 648-1985.

The Fencesitters Winter Ball' Get your groove on at this bi dance party, featuring DJ Kelli and a performance by the "Nice and Nasty duo," a performance by the Nice and Masky dudy. Snatch and Chablis. Fri/9, 9 p.m.–2 a.m., lezebel's foint, 510 Larkin, S.F. (415) 707–2876.
'My Sucky Valentine' See 8 Days a Week, page 62. Thes/13, 8 p.m., Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th St., S.F. \$12–\$20. (415) 989-7374.

'San Francisco Spirit' cruises Spend V-Day on a 150-foot ship on the Bay and get a three-course gourmet meal, an open bar, dancing, champagne, and sweet views of the city. Wed/14, 6–9:30 p.m.,

Pier 39, S.F. \$125 per person. (415) 788-9100.
'Sweetheart's Ball' You'll hear country and western music at the Sundance Saloon's downhome party featuring music by Lenora Almadova. Arrive early to take advantage of the dance lessons (6-7:30 p.m.) Proceeds benefit the Bay Area Breast Cancer Network. Sun/18, 6-11 p.m., 174 King, S.F. \$8. (415) 699-5764 or www.sundance.freehosting.net.
Third Annual Buddhist Valentine's Dharma Party

Buddhist monks and nuns host a rockin' V-day party with games, heaps of chocolate, live musi and contra dancing. Proceeds benefit the Sahara Buddhist Center's free and low-cost meditation classes around the Bay Area. Sat/17, 7–10 p.m., Fort Mason Firehouse, Fort Mason Center, Marina at Laguna, S.F. \$25. (415) 585-9161. 24th Annual Senior Adult's Valentine's Day

Dance Seniors are invited to dance to the Maury Wolohan Band at this free event sponsored by the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department. Thes/13, noon-3:30 p.m., San Francisca County Fair Bldg., Ninth Ave. at Lincoln, S.F. Free. (415) 666-7079.

Valentine Adoption Fair Neighboring agencies the San Francisco Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and the San Francisco Department of Animal Care and Control cohost events designed to unite puppies, kittens, dogs, cats, birds, rats, hamsters, and guinea pigs with loving owners. You can also tour the shelter, get info on animal care, and win prizes. Snn/11, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Alabama between Florida and Harrison, S.F. Free. (415) 554-9427 or (415) 554-3012, 'Valentine's Celebration at the Red Vic Movie

House' The omnipresent Nik Phelps and the Sprocket Ensemble perform live music to love-n-romance-themed films by Nina Paley, Dean Mermell, Jeremy Solterbeck, and Ron Yavnieli.

Thnrs/8, 7:30 and 9:30 p.m., Red Vic, 1727 Haight, S.F. \$7-\$10. (415) 681-3189. Valentine's Day films at the Exploratorium You'll find l'amour on screen at this event including David Collier's For Better or for Worse (1992), an in-depth look at the lasting love held by five couples who've managed to stay married for 50

couples who've managed to stay married for 50 years or more, and the short "Washing Walls with Mrs. G" (1980). Sun/11, 2 p.m., 3601 Lyon, S.F. \$2.50-\$9. (415) EXP-LORE.

Valentine's Day reading A "romantic atmosphere" and music highlight this event for literature lovers. Bring your favorite sonnet, poem, or love song to share. Wed/14, 6-8 p.m., Mechanics' Institute, 57 Post, S.F. \$5. (415) 393-0100.

Valentine's Day sex tour Probably the only San Erancisco Zoo event limited to animal lovers. 18

Francisco Zoo event limited to animal lovers 18 and over, this event features a guided tour that details the courtship and mating rituals of various creatures. The tour includes a postshow champagne-and-chocolate reception. Plan your visit for Wed/14, 9 a.m., and enjoy an extrafancy soirée with truffles and wine, or make it at 3 p.m. for "Patagonian Passion" (a tango-themed teception with music and dancing). Sat/10–Sun/11, Wed/14, and Sat/17–Sun/18, 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., San Francisco Zoo, Sloat at 45th Ave., S.F. \$50 (Valentine's Day reception \$100), (415) 753-7165,

Valentine's play night Work out your communivalentine's pay inght work out your communication issues through physical activity at this ImprovWorks-hosted evening of "fun exercises and games for couples." Fri/9, 7:30–10 p.m., Fort Mason Center, Bldg. D, Rin. 290, Marina at Laguna, S.F. \$40 per couple. (415) 885-5678.

DivaBands Valentine's show Amy Camus and Invadants Valentinie's SHOW Amy Camus and the Existentialists, Jana Herzen, and Groovy Judy remind you why the only relationship you really need is the one you have with rock 'n' roll. Tues/13, 8:15 p.m., Red Devil Lounge, 1695 Polk, S.F. \$5. (415) 921-1695.

The Valentine's DJ Times Expo Show' Marques Wyatt, John Howard, Garth, and DJ Fluid share time behind the decks at this Om Records– hosted Valentine's shindig. 9 p.m.-2 a.m., Decibel, 699 Market, S.F. \$10. (415) 543-0191.

performance

Autis Toole, Moe! Staiano, and Merlin Coleman Oakland gallery and performance space 21 Grand presents "a cool alternative to the banal and maudlin festivities that usually occur on Valentine's Day": the improvised, chaotically experimental sounds of Autis Toole, pipe-banging

spontaneous percussionist Moe! Staiano, and Merlin Coleman's black-and-white film collage "Progress Farm." Wed/14, 8 p.m., 21 Grand, \$5-\$10, (510) 444-7263.

'Flamenco, Paella, and Roses' Enjoy a fourcourse dinner, then a flamenco show featuring dancer Lourdes Rodríguez and singer Antonio de Jerez with Keni "El Lebrijano," Nina Menéndez, David Gutiérrez, and Sarita Ayala, Wed/14, 6:30 and 9 p.m., Café de la Paz, 1600 Shattuck, Berk. \$50. (510) 843-0662. 'How We First Met' See 8 Days a Week, page 62.

Wed/14, 8 p.m., Bayfront Theater, Fort Mason Center, Bldg. B, Third floor, S:F. \$15-\$20. Show info (415) 474-8935; tickets (510) 601-TWEB,

WWW.nickerwectorin.

'LaughLovers' The Comedy/Humor Writers'
Association presents a special Valentine's Day
event with comedians Ross Turner and Hillary Cohen, who will perform separately, then discuss the ups and downs of being a "comedy couple." Wed/14, 6–8 p.m., Round Table Pizza, 5160 Geary, S.F. \$16.50 (includes all-you-can-eat pizza). (415) 668-2402.

ptza). (412) 1688-2402.

The Love Show' Improv group the Fibbs create an on-the-spot show of songs and stories about love. Sat/10, 7 p.m., Shotwell Studios, 3252A 19th St., S.F. \$5. (415) 664-9884 or (510) 923-0728. 'Nihilist Love' Feline Productions presents a collaboratively created piece — directed by and starring San Francisco State students and alumni - that uses music, dance, and theater to nt — that uses music, dance, and theater to delve into the agony and ecstasy of contemporary love affairs. Fri/9—Sat/10 and Fri/16—Sat/17, 8:30 p.m., Exit Cafe, 156 Eddy, S.F. \$10. (650) 760-1599.

'St. Valentine's Big Burlesque Variety Show' See 8 Days a Week, page 62. Thes/13, 9:30 p.m., Odeon, 3223 Mission, S.F. \$7. (415) 550-6994. 'A Streetcar Named Clitoris' Bleeding Hearts

magazine benefits from this evening of poetry (featured readers include Stephan Ielphi, Angelique X, Jonathyn Sinistre, rant!, Ben Pleasants, and C.D. Wofford), music by GladBak and Trikk Baby, and performances by Burn Unit and Thick Baby, and performances by Both of Maria Near Eastern Dance Troupe. Ties/13, 9 p.m., Cat Clnb, 1190 Folsom, S.F. \$4. (510) 288-1862. "Valentine for Billie Holiday" Crooner Faye Carol

performs sultry jazz for both "lovers and lonrers." Proceeds benefit KPFA Radio and La Peña Cultural Center's endowment fund. Wed/14, 7:30 p.m., King Middle School, 1781 Rose, Berk. \$15. (510) 849-2568, ext. 20 or (510) 848-6767,

art galleries

The Back Room: Erotic Art, Twenty local artists display their "wildly erotic works" at City Art Cooperative Gallery. Through Feb 25. Gallery hours: Tnes.–Snn., noon–9 p.m., 828 Valencia, S.F. Free. (415) 970-9900.

Beaux and Eros Tribute to St. Valentine' "Erotic

and romantic art" makes the Vorpal Gallery Valentine-ready. The opening reception features a live dance performance with Tango #9 and Odile Lavault. Tues/13-March 30. Gallery hours: Fines.—Sat., 11 a.m.—6 p.m. (reception Wed/14, 5:30—8 p.m.), 393 Grove, S.E. Free (415) 397-9200. 'Purely Physical' San Francisco Women Artists present a mixed-media Valentine's Day-themed exhibit that emphasizes erotica and the human exhibit that emphasizes eroted and the number form. Through Feb. 24. Gallery hours: Tives.—Sat., 11 a.m.—8 p.m.; Thurs., 11 a.m.—8 p.m.; second and third Sun., 1–4:30 p.m. (reception Thurs/8, 5:30–7:30 p.m.), SFWA Gallery, 370 Hayes, S.F. Free. (415) 552–5FWA.

Tokens of Love' Velvet da Vinci gallery hosts their 10th approach Valentine's show. This year's

their 10th annual Valentine's show. This year's exhibit interprets love through the art of metal-smiths from around the world, including Scottish artist Grainne Morton. Through Feb. 28. Gallery honrs: Tues .- Sat., noon-6 p.in.; Sun. valentine's Frosted Fashion Show' Artist Stevie

Famulari, who creates her pieces by applying sugar frosting to landscapes, buildings, and peo-ple, makes the corner of Powell and Market Streets sweeter with models covered in colored icing and candy. Sat/17, 1:30 p.m., Powell at Market, S.F. Free. (415) 377-7261.

The Valentine Show! Love is in the air at the appropriately named Two of Hearts gallery. Check

out black-and-white photography by Rachel Lorenz, Larry Merkle, and JB Higgins, plus paintings by William Ulrich, Daniel Phill, and Lady Lori Spencer-Churchill. *Throngh Feb. 24*. Gallery hours: Tites.—Sat., 11 a.m.—5 p.m.; Wed. by appointment (reception Fri/9, 6–9 p.m.), 4147 19th St., S.F. Free. (415) 864-5551.

'The Valentine Show' Barbara Anderson Gallery hosts its annual exhibition of artist-made Valentines. Through Feb. 28. Barbara Anderson, 2243 Fifth St., Berk. Frec. (510) 848-3822.

Music

Music listings are compiled by Mosi Reeves Music intern is Sabrina Crawford. As club life is unpredictable, it's a good idea to call ahead to confirm bookings and hours. Prices are listed when provided to us. See 8 Days a Week for information on how to submit an item to listures

wednesday 7

Rock/blues/hip-hop

Blues jam Blue Lamp. 9:30pm. With Pimp

Daddy Jesus. Also Sun/11.
Tommy Castro Band Biscnits and Blues. 8:30 Counterpoint, One for the Road Hotel Utah.

Wendy Dewitt Saloon, 9:30pm.

Grannies, Blue, Un-I.D. Bottom of the Hill. 30pm, \$6.

9:30pm, \$6.

Haywoods Elbo Room. 10pm, \$6.

Ignite, Bane, Reach the Sky, Movielife Pound

SF, Pier 96, 100 Cargo; 826-9202. 7pm, \$8.

See 8 Days a Week, page 62.

Pure Ecstasy Top of the Mark. 8:30pm, \$8.

Robotgod, Junk Sick Dawn, Shmoogie Con-

songo Paradise Lounge. 8:30pm.
Waxwings, Yuji Oniki Cafe dn Nord. 10pm,

Bay Area

Ascension Blake's. 9:30pm, \$5. Rattlebox Sweetwater, 9pm

Jazz/new music

Ned Boynton Combo Enrico's, 7pi Bob Dalpe and the Compass Rose Trio Westin St. Francis Hotel, 335 Powell; 397-7000. 5pm. Also Thurs/8, Mon/12-Tues/13.

Bruce Foreman's jazz workshop Enrico's.

3:30pm. With Jim Nichols. Dick Hindman Trio Jazz at Pearl's. 9pm. Art Hirahara Trio Butterfly. 10pm. With DJ

Frankye Kelly Mecca, 2029 Market; 621-7000.

8 and 9:30pm. Mike Lipskin House of Shields. 5:30pm. Al Marshall Trio Argent Hotel, Jesters Lounge, 50 Third St; 974-6400. 8:30pm. Also Thurs/8,

Jason Myers Trio Houstons, 1800 Montgomery; 392-9280. 6pm. Also Thurs/8, Sun/11-Tues/13.

Neurohumors Brainwash. 9pm. Al Pacheco Jazz Band Skip's Tavern. 7pm. Sherrie Roberts Cosmopolitan Cafe. 121

Spear; 543-4001. 8pm. Gary Rowe Cypress Club. 8pm. Also Tues/13. Tom Shaw Carta, 7pm

Tango No. 9, Junk Genius Brimo's. 9pm, \$7. 30 Fingers Simple Pleasures Cafe. 8pm. Charles Unger Experience Les Joulins. 8pm.

We Three John's Grill, 63 Ellis; 986-0069. 6:30pm. Also Thurs/8-Tues/13. Paula West Plush Room. 8pm, \$20. Also

Bay Area

And-Ornette X-tet Cato's Ale House. 6pm. Poncho Sanchez Band Yoshi's. 8 and 10pm,

\$20. Through Sun/11.
Realistic Jupiter. Spin. With DJ Turtle.
Rhythm Section, Judy Hall 19 Broadway.

Folk/world/country

Acoustic open mic Lost and Found Saloon.

Linda Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir Herhst Theatre, 401 Van Ness; (510) 465-9312. 10:30am and 12:30pm, \$8-10.

Tony Trishka, Radim Zenk Last Day Saloon. 9рін, \$12-14. San Francisco Bluegrass and Old-Time Festival showcase

Vivendo de Pão Boom Boom Room. 9:15pm, \$6.

Bay Area

Frog Legs Ashkenaz. 9pm, \$8. Keona and Moana Beamer St. John's Presby terian Church, 2727 College, Berk; (510) 548-1761. 8pm, \$17.50-18.50.

Souls of Mischief

Fri/9. Amoeba Music

choice:

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ver since the Souls of Mischief hooked up with Jive Records in the early '90s — when the quartet were still in high school — serious hip-hop aficionados have been tuning their ears to the unstoppable flow of the group's rhymes and laid-back West Coast beats. As participants in and a Greek chorus to Oakland's daily tragedies, the Souls of Mischief were too savvy to wonder why revenge was the unbreakable moral code, but soulful enough to hope for something better -- if not a resolution to the violence then, at least, the right to keep chillin' for reals. They debuted with '93 Til Infinity on Jive, following up with No Man's Land in 1995, but an acrimonious split with the label led the collective to form Hiero Imperium with fellow Hieroglyphics Del, Casual, and Pep Love. Last fall saw the release of Trilogy: Conflict, Climax, Resolution, a concept album that thickens the mellow beats with fuller samples, live instrumentation, and some sweet vocals from Digital Underground's Mystic. With



the realism of early-'90s rap losing ground to the bombastic, overproduced East Coast sound, enthusiasm for the Souls has waned, but the quality of their work endures. True fans will be memorizing their rhymes to infinity. 6 p.m., 1855 Haight, S.F. Free. (415) 831-1200. (Dehorah Giattina)

Whiskey Brothers Albatross, 1822 San Pablo, Berk; (510) THE-BIRD. 9pm

Dance clubs

Audible Colors *Top. 7pm.* 2-step music with Tasho and guest Monty Luke.

Beat Blender Rawhide. 9pm-2am. R. Strong spins techno and Sugar Shane spins house. Bondage A Go-Go Cat Clirb. 9pin-3am, \$7-10. With DJs Damion and Fernando.

Cream Butter. 8pm-2am.

Dirty Break An Sibin, 1176 Sutter; 929-1992.
9:30pm-2am. With David Michael and Hank the Guy with Records spinning funky breaks

Discover Ruby Skyc. 9pm-3am, \$10. House music with various residents.

Dish Bhnd Tiger. 9pm. With residents Juss Derek and Luke and weekly guests. Elephunk Instice League. 9pm-2am, \$7. Hiphop music with Felonious.

El Rio 7:30pm. Classic Latin music with DJ

Filament Pow! A Cocklail Lounge. 9pm. With

Chulada and guests.

Focus Nickie's BBQ. 9pm. DJ Masao and
Bump Tribe spin deep house.

Gather Round Fnse, 493 Broadway; 788-2706.

Gauter Hound First, 493 Brodaway; 758-2206.

10pin-2am. With Cinnamon Underpants and DJ Design.

Groove Jet Holy Cow. 9pm. With local DJs.

Happy Hour Escapades Glas Kat. 5:30-10pm.

80s music with DJ Dan.

Indulgence Starlight Room. 7pm. With Bizness and DJ Bruce.

Jazzildungle Tongne and Groove. 9pm, \$5. Live drum 'n' bass and acid jazz with Elitrea, SoMuchSoul, Digital Lady Bug, Damon

Eamon, and Denizen. **Lithium Lounge** 26 Mix. 10pm-2am, \$3. Live jazz and drum 'n' bass with Shan Kenner

Low Down Grooves Top. 7-10pm. With DJs Schnezzy, Damo, Nicole, and guests spinning downtempo, hip-hop, and funk. Nessun Dorma HiFi. 10:01pm. House music. Poly's Playhouse Hush Hush Lounge. 9pm-2am, \$4. With DJ Polywog and the Tadpoles

Progress Liquid. 10pm-2am, \$3. DJs Michael Liu and Joseph Lee spin techno and trance Qool 111 Minna St. 5-9pm, \$5. Pan-techno lounge with DJs Spesh, Gil, Hyper D, and

Qool after party Light, 839 Geary; 474-3216.

Recline AsiaSF. 7pm, \$5. With Pause, Jamo,

Red Wine Social Dalva, 3121 16th St; 332-5800, ext 211. 10pm-2am. With Toph One.

Retro Kat Glas Kat. 9pm-2am. Go-go dancing with the Men of Exotica and Go-Go Tribe and funk, disco, and house music. Seance Backflip. 9pm-2am, \$5. Foxxee, Franky Boissy, and Didje Keli spin 2-step

Wednesday Sessions Galaxy, 1840 Haight; 387-2996. 9pm-2am, \$5. House music with Hogi, Sammy K., and Leonard.

Bay Area

Club Fusetti 10pm. Salsa and merengue with Pete Solis. Salsa lessons at 8pm. **Soulvation** *Ruby Room.* 10pm-2am **Venue** Bluesville. 9:30pm-2am. Soul music with DJs Lash and Juice.

Classical

San Francisco Symphony Davies Symphony Hall, 401 Van Ness; 864-6000. 8pm, \$28-80. The symphony, led by conductor Michael Tilson Thomas, plays three compositions by Stravinsky. Featured performers include tenor Stuart Neill, Ragazzi, and the San Francisco Symphony Chorus. Through

Dan Franklin Smith St. Patrick's Church, 756 Mission; 777-3211. 12:30pm. The pianist gives a recital of works by Mendelssohn, Stenhammer, Lundin, and Chopin.

Bay Area

Ron McKean First Presbyterian Church, 2619 Broadway, Oakl; (510) 444-7615. 12:15pm. The organist plays a recital of his own

Young Musicians Program UC Berkeley, Hertz Hall, Berk; (510) 642-4864. Noon. The members of the program perform a recital.

thursday 8

Rock/blues/hip-hop

Brenda Boykin and Home Cookin' Boom Jerry Cantrell, Swarm, Comes with the Fall,

Broken Low Pound SF, Pier 96, 100 Cargo; 826-9202. 8pm, \$12. See 8 Days a Week, page

Cutthroats, Space Boy, Totimoshi Bottom of the Hill. 9:30pm, \$7. Albert 'King' Giles Skip's Tavern. 7pm. Mark Growden's Electric Piñata Slim's. 8pm,

\$8. With Rube Waddell, Faun Fables, Schloss, Brian Kenny Fresno, and Amaldecor.

Continued on page 68





SF's Premier Blues Club Dinner Dancing Drinks

THURS., Feb. 8 THE PAMELA ROSE BAND



Wed., Feb. 7 TOMMY CASTRO BAND 8:30 & 10:30om



FRI.. Feb. 9 STEVE LUCKY & THE RHUMBA BUMS



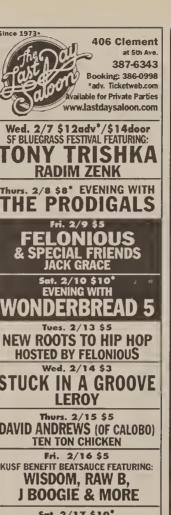
SAT., Feb. 10 PINETOP PERKINS & THE RUSTY ZINN BAND 8:30 & 10:30pm



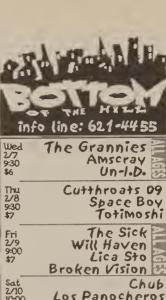
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Sat 2/10 10:00 \$7 Los Panocheros Tubesteak Jones all-you-can-eat BBQ at 4:00 Kirby Grips Chantigs Keeners Mon 2/12 9:00 \$5 Them There Headlands Band One Trick Pony

Dolly Varden Reckless Kelly Jimbo Trous Amory Maxwell Horse

Pedro the Lion Girls vs. Boys Young Fresh Fellows



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club guide venue directory

Amnesia 853 Valencia; (415) 970-8336. Amoeba Music 1855 Haight; (415) 831-1200. Annie's Cocktail Lounge 15 Boardman Place; (415) 703-0865.

AsiaSF 201 Ninth St; (415) 255-8889 Atlas Cafe 3049 20th St; (415) 648-1047. Backflip 601 Eddy; (415) 771-FLIP. Baobab 3388 19th St; (415) 643-3558 Bas 383 Bay; (415) 441-3885.

Beach Chalet 1000 Great Highway; (415) 386-

Beauty Bar 2299 Mission; (415) 285-

Big Heart City 836 Mission; (415) 777-

Bimbo's 365 Club 1025 Columbus; (415) 474-0365

Biscuits and Blues 401 Mason; (415)

Bistro E Europe 4901 Mission; (415)

Black Cat 501 Broadway; (415) 981-

Blind Tiger 787 Broadway; (415) 788-

Blue Lamp 561 Geary; (415) 885-

Boom Boom Room 1601 Fillmore:

Boomerang 1840 Haight; (415) 387-Bottom of the Hill 1233 17th St; (415)

Brainwash 1122 Folsom; (415) 255-

Broadway Studios 435 Broadway:

(415) 291-0933 Bruno's 2389 Mission; (415) 648-

Bubble Lounge 714 Montgomery;

(415) 434-4204. Butter 354 11th St; (415) 339-8735. Butterfly 1710 Mission; (415) 864-

The Cafe 2367 Market; (415) 861-

Café Claude 7 Claude; (415) 392-

Cafe Cocomo 650 Indiana; (415) 824-6910. Cafe du Nord 2170 Market; (415) 861-5016. Cafe International 508 Haight; (415) 552-

Cafe Niebaum-Coppola 916 Kearny; (415)

291-1700. Carta 1760 Market; (415) 863-3516 Cat Club 1190 Folsom; (415) 431-3332 Cellar 685 Sutter; (415) 441-5678. Circadia 2727 Mariposa; (415) 552-2649 City Nights 715 Harrison; (415) 532-2649.
Club Deluxe 1509-11 Haight; (415) 552-6949.
Club NV 525 Howard; (415) 339-8686.
Club Six 60 Sixth St; (415) 863-1221. Club Townsend 177 Townsend; (415) 974-

Covered Wagon Saloon 917 Folsom; (415) 974-1585

Cypress Club 500 Jackson; (415) 296-8555 Deuces 2319 Taraval; (415) 566-9122. Eastside West 3154 Fillmore; (415) 885-4000 Edinburgh Castle 950 Geary; (415) 885-4074 850 Cigar Bar 850 Montgomery; (415) 291-

0850. Elbo Room 647 Valencia; (415) 552-7788. 11:11 Lounge 1330 Polk; (415) 885-2652. Endup 401 Sixth St; (415) 387-0827. Enrico's 504 Broadway; (415) 982-6223. Fillmore 1805 Geary; (415) 346-6000. Gin Joint 312 Harnet; (415) 934-1655. Glas Kat 520 Fourth St; (415) 495-0656. Great American Music Hall 859 O'Farrell; (415) 885-0750

Hi-Ball Lounge 473 Broadway; (415) 397-

HiFi 2125 Lombard; (415) 345-TONE Holy Cow 1531 Folsom; (415) 621-6087. Hotel Utah 500 Fourth St; (415) 546-6300. House of Shields 39 New Montgomery; (415)

Hush Hush Lounge 496 14th St; (415) 241-9944

Infusion 555 Second St; (415) 543-2282. Ireland's 32 3920 Geary; (415) 386-6173 Irlsh Bank 10 Mark Lane; (415) 788-7152 Iron Horse 19 Maiden Lane; (415) 789-7899. Java on Ocean 1700 Ocean; (415) 587-3126. Jazz at Pearl's 256 Columbus; (415) 291-

Jelly's 295 China Basin Way; (415) 495-3099. Johnny Foley's 243 O'Farrell; (415) 954-0777. Les Joulins 44 Ellis; (415) 397-5397. Justice League 628 Oivisadero; (415) 289-

Kate O'Briens 579 Howard; (415) 882-7240

Kimo's 1351 Polk; (415) 885-4535 King Street Garage 174 King; (415) 665-6715. Last Day Saloon 406 Clement; (415) 887-6343. Lexington Club 3464 19th St; (415) 863-2052. Liquid 2925 16th St; (415) 289-6833. Lost and Found Saloon 1353 Grant: (415)

Lou's Pier 47 300 Jefferson; (415) 771-0377. Luggage Store Gallery 1007 Market, Second fl: (415) 255-5971

Sing softly: Kazakh-Turkish singer Saadet Türköz brings her ethereal voice to the Luggage Store Gallery Thurs/8.

Mad Dog in the Fog 530 Haight: (415) 626-

Make-Out Room 3225 22nd St; (415) 647-

Manhattan Lounge 699 Market; (415) 552-

Mario's Bohemian 2209 Polk; (415) 776-8226. Maritime Hall 450 Harrison; (415) 974-0634. Metronome Ballroom 1830 17th St; (415) 252-9000.

Mexican Bus Bus leaves from Chevy's at Fourth Street at Howard; (415) 546-3747. Moose's 1652 Stockton; (415) 989-7800 Movida Lounge 200 Fillmore; (415) 934-8637. Nickie's BBQ 460 Haight; (415) 621-6508. Noe Valley Ministry 1021 Sanchez; (415) 454-

O'Farrell Street Bar 800 Larkin; (415) 567-

Old First Church 1751 Sacramento; (415) 474-

111 Minna St. 111 Minna; (415) 974-1719. One Market Restaurant 1 Market; (415) 777-5577.

Paradise Lounge 308 11th St; (415) 861-6906. Peña del Sur 2870 22nd St; (415) 550-1101. Piaf's 1686 Market; (415) 864-3700. Pief 23 Pier 23; (415) 362-5125. Plough and Stars 116 Clement; (415) 751-

Plush Room 940 Sutter; (415) 885-2800.

Polly Esther's 181 Eddy; (415) 885-1977. Pow! A Cocktail Lounge 101 Sixth St; (415)

278-0940. The Ramp 855 China Basin; (415) 621-2378. Rasselas 2801 California; (415) 567-5010. Rawhide 280 Seventh St; (415) 820-1621. Red Oevil Lounge 1695 Polk; (415) 921-1695. Redwood Room Clift Hotel, 495 Geary; (415) 775-4700

El Rio 3158 Mission; (415) 282-3325 Ritz-Carlton 600 Stockton; (415) 296-7465. Rose Pistola 532 Columbus; (415) 399-0499. Royale 1326 Grant; (415) 433-4247. Ruby Skye 420 Mason; (415) 693-0777. Sacrifice 800 South Van Ness; (415) 641-0990.

Saloon 1232 Grant; (415) 989-7666. San Francisco Brewing Company 155 Columbus; (415) 434-3344. Shanghai 1930 133 Steuart; (415) 896-5600.

Simple Pleasures Cafe 3434 Balboa; (415) 387-4022

Skip's Tavern 453 Cortland; (415) 282-3456. Slim's 333 11th St; (415) 522-0333. Sno-Drift 1830 Third St; (415) 431-4766. Sound Factory 525 Harrison; (415) 979-8686

Space 550 550 Barneveld; (415) 550-8286. Starlight Room Drake Hotel, 450 Powell; (415)

Stars 555 Golden Gate; (415) 861-7827 Storyville 1751 Fulton; (415) 441-1751. The Stud 399 Ninth St; (415) 252-7883. Studio 435 435 Broadway; (415) 291-0333. Tango Tango 1550 California; (415) 775-0442. Tempest 431 Natoma; (415) 495-1863.

Ten 15 Folsom 1015 Folsom; (415) 431-0700. 330 Ritch 330 Ritch; (415) 541-9574. Tip Top Inn 3001 Mission; (415) 824-

> The Top 424 Haight; (415) 864-7386. Tongue and Groove 2513 Van Ness; (415) 928-0404.

Top of the Mark Mark Hopkins Intercontinental Hotel, 1 Nob Hill; (415) 616-

Transmission Theater 314 11th St;

(415) 861-6906. Trapdoor 3251 Scott; (415) 776-1928. 26 Mix 3024 Mission; (415) 248-1319 Up & Down Club 1151 Folsom; (415)

Velvet Lounge 443 Broadway; (415)

Venue 9 252 Ninth St; (415) 626-2169. Voodoo Lounge 2937 Mission; (415)

Warfield 982 Market; (415) 775-7722.

Bay Area

Ashkenaz 1317 San Pablo, Berk; (510)

Baltic 135 Park Place, Point Richmond:

Bison Brewing Company 2598 Telegraph, Berk; (510) 841-7734. Blake's 2367 Telegraph, Berk; (510)

848-0886 Bluesville 131 Broadway, Oakl; (510)

Caribee Dance Center 1408 Webster, 0akl: (510) 835-4006

Cato's Ale House 3891 Piedmont, Oakl; (510) 655-3349.

Club Fusetti 815 West Francisco, San Rafael; (415) 459-6079

Eli's Mile High Club 3629 MLK Jr Way, Oakl; (510) 655-666

Fourth Street Tavern 711 Fourth St, San

Rafael; (415) 454-4044. Freight and Salvage 1111 Addison, Berk; (510) H's Lordships 199 Seawall, Berk; (510) 843-

Island Paradise Club 1436 Webster, Alameda:

(510) 865-3225. Ivy Room Solano at San Pablo, Albany; (510) 524-9299.

Jimmie's VIP Jazz Room 1731 San Pablo, Oakl; (510) 268-8444. Jupiter 2181 Shattuck, Berk; (510) THE-ROCK. Kimball's East 5800 Shellmound, Emeryville;

(510) 658-2555 New George's 842 Fourth St, San Rafael; (415)

19 Broadway 19 Broadway, Fairfax; (415) 459-

924 Gilman 924 Gilman, Berk; (510) 525-9926. Panache 639 E. Blithedale, Mill Valley; (415)

Paramount Theatre 2025 Broadway, Oakl: (510) 465-6400

Pasand Lounge 2286 Shattuck, Berk; (510) 549-2559 La Peña Cultural Center 3105 Shattuck, Berk;

(510) 849-2568. Peri's 29 Broadway Fairfax: (415) 459-9910. Port Lite 229 Brush, Oakl; (510) 451-0600. Ruby Room 132 14th St, Oakl; (510) 444-7224.

Sanchez Concert Hall 1220 Linda Mar, Pacifica; (415) 355-1882. **Starry Plough** 3101 Shattuck, Berk; (510) 841-

Stork Club 2330 Telegraph, Oakl; (510) 444-

Sweetwater 153 Throckmorton, Mill Valley;

(415) 388-2820. Tavern Grill 1448 Burlingame, Burlingame; (415) 344-5692

Terrace Lounge Claremont Hotel, 41 Tunnel, Berk; (510) 549-8576.

Veterans Memorial Building 200 Grand, Oakl; (510) 238-3284 Voulez Vous 2930 College, Berk; (510) 548-

White Horse 6551 Telegraph, Oakl; (510) 652-

Yoshi's 510 Embarcadero West, Jack London Square, Oakl; (510) 238-9200. *









ACTeVA



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music calendar i

rock, jazz, folk/world, dance clubs & classical

Thursday 8

From page 65

Hellbillys, Mommy's Friend, Jimmy Two Times, Eddie Haskells, Left Out Lamont, Dork.com Paradise Lounge. 8pm. With Luce

in the upstairs lounge. 8pm. With Luce in the upstairs lounge.

'Hex Appeal' Kimo's. 9:30pm. With Mothman.

K.C. and the Blue Flames Blue Lamp. 9:30pm.

Lazy Dog, Jay Hannan, Julius Papp Ten 15

Folsom. 10pm-4am, \$15. See 8 Days a Week,

Ledisi Cafe du Nord. 10pm, \$6. With DJ 1J. Cathy Lemon Saloon. 9:30pm.

Little Jonny Cosmopolitan Cafe, 121 Spear; 543-4001. 8pm. With guest. Notorious Tongue and Groove. 9pm. Pure Ecstasy Glas Kat. 6:30-10:30pm.

Prodigals Last Day Saloon. 9pm, \$8. Sol Americano, Sunchild Red Devil Lounge.

8pm, \$5.
"Stinky's Peepshow" Covered Wagon Saloon. 9:30pm, \$5. With 401k, Crosstops, and

Sourpuss. Sourvain, War Machine, Descending Sorrow

Tempest. 9pm. Ten Ton Chicken, Tree O' Frogs, New Monsoon Hotel Utah. 9pm. Tipsy Club Deluxe. 9:30pm.

Bay Area

Farrallon, Charm School 19 Broadway.

Country Pete McGill and His Cottonfield Blues Band 10739 MacArthur, Oakl; (510)

Waxwings, Applesaucer Starry Plough. 9:15pm, \$6.

Jazz/new music

Red Archibald and the Internationals Top of the Mark, 8:30pm, \$8.

Blue and Tan Butterfly. 10pm. With DJ So-MuchSoul. Bruce and Arnoldino Peña Pachamama, 1630

Powell; 646-0018. 8pm, \$8.

Dick Fregulia-Vince Gomez Duo Cobalt Tav-

ern, /pm.
Patrick Greene Trio Eastwide West. 9pm.

Jack Hicks Carta. 7pm.
Frank Jackson Cypress Club. 8pm. Also

Fri/9, Mon/12.
Shan Kenner Trio Eurico's. 7pm.
Mike Lipskin and Waldo Carter Moose's. 8pm.

Ron Marabuto Quartet Jazz at Pearl's. 9pm. Larry O'Leno Piano Bar, 1092 Post; 771-2022. 8:30pm. Also Fri/9-Sat/10.

People in Motion, Colin Stetson and Gianni

Gebbia, Saadet Türköz Luggage Store Gallery. SDIM. \$6-10.

Post Junk Trio Harry Denton's, 2020 Fill-

more; 921-1000. 9pm. Omar Sosa Bruno's. 8 and 10pm, \$15. Starlight Orchestra Starlight Room, 8pm. Also Fri/9-Sat/10.

Ronald Wilson Quintet Les Joulins. 8pm. Also

Bay Area

Steve Lucky and the Rhumba Bums Kimball's Carnival, 522 Second St, Jack London Square, Oakl; (510) 444-6979. 9pm, \$10. Dance lesson at 8pm.

Joshi Marshall Project Jupiter, 8pm.

Folk/world/country

Acoustic open mic Sacred Grounds Cafe, 2095 Hayes; 387-3859. 7:30pm. With Todd Tholke and guests.

Charanson Elbo Room. 10pm, \$6. Circle R Boys, Harmony Grits Atlas Cafe. 8pm. San Francisco Bluegrass and Old-Time Festival showcase.

Michelle McGrath Simple Pleasures Cafe.

Poncho Sanchez Band Yoshi's. 8 and 10pm, \$20. Through Sun/11.
Tipsy House Plough and Stars, 7pm.

Bay Area

Keni 'El Lebrijano' Albatross, 1822 San Pablo, Berk; (510) THE-BIRD. 9pm. Ralph Stanley and the Clinch Mountain Boys, MacRae Brothers Freight and Salvage.

8pm, \$19.50-20.50. Through Fri/9. San Francisco Bluegrass and Old-Time Festival

Linda Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir Henry J. Kaiser Convention Center, Calvin Simmons Theatre, 10 10th St, Oakl; (510) 465-9312. 10:30am and 12:30pm, \$8-10.

Dance clubs

An Sibin 1176 Sutter; 929-1992. 10pm-2am, 33. House music with rotating residents.

Arabian Nights El Rio. 9pm. With Amira.

Burnin' Galaxy, 1840 Haight; 387-2996. 9pm-2am. Deep and funky house with Seven,

Corazon, and guests.
Circuit Breaker Fuse, 493 Broadway; 788-2706. 9pm-1:30am. With Centipede, Joe Rice, and Oze.

Rice, and Oze.

Dirthox Voodoo Lounge. 9pm-1:30am, \$3.

With Evol and Funky J. Vibe.

Download 375 First; (650) 568-1338. 9pm-2am, \$10. Sister collective showcase.

Drink Club 26 Mix. 9pm-2am, \$3. Earthbound Galaxy, 1840 Haight; 387-2996. 6-9pm. Seven, Blue and guests spin

downtempo. Electrofreq Butter. 7pm.

Elementary Movida Lounge. 9pm. With DJ Sloppy J spinning funk and soul. Faith City Nights. 9:30pm, \$12. With residents Blackstone, Ruben Mancias, Jay-R.

Foxy Lady Lounge Pow! A Cocktail Lounge. 9pm, \$3. With Neil N. Kizmiaz.
Free Liquid. 10pm-2am. With DJ Dimitri

Fudge Sacrifice. 10pm-2am, \$3. JB spins hip-

hop.
Full Circle Club 238, 238 Columbus; 339-7899. 9pm-6an. With residents Norm
Stradley and Ben Doren.
Gravity Backflip. 10pm, \$5. DJs Reda, Ahmir and guest 1Z spin deep grooves and house.
Instrumental Sound Factory. 10pm-2am, \$5-10. Breaks, dancehall, soul, and old school with residents Mr. E and Qwest and guests J-Roogie, and Ross Hogg.

Kit Kat Endup. 10pn: 4am, \$10.

Meow Up & Down Club. 10pm-2am, \$10. Urban grooves, hip-hop, and R&B with

Moulin Rouge 1500 Broadway; 346-7683. 9pm-2am. Club classics and house with Charles B., Foxxee, Antony, and Von. 1984 Cat Club. 9pm. '80s music. Ponzu Sessions Ponzu, 401 Taylor; 775-7979.

8pm. With Teresa.
Popscene 330 Ritch. 10pm-2am, \$5. Indie

rock and Brit-pop.

Red Bull Happy Hour Butter. 6-9pm. With
Frenchy Le Freak.

Reform Skool Stud. 10pm, \$5. Go-go boys, house, and urban beats with DJ Jeff Chandler and guests.
Soulness Hush Hush Lounge. 9:30pm-2am,

\$3. DJ Goldmyne and English Steve spin vintage soul and R&B.

Str8 Up & Down Club. 10pm-2am, \$10. With Ben Doren and Julius Melendez. Sure Shot Top. 10pm-2am, \$5. Garage, house, and breaks with residents Travis, Ben

Cook, and Chris Orr.

Volume Bohemia, 1624 California; 474-6968. 9pm-2am. House music with residents Seth and Jonathan Stuart and guest Mauricio

What Da Funk Nickie's BBQ. 9pm-2am. DJ Motion Potion spins old-school funk and rare grooves.

Bay Area

Beatdown Blake's. 9:30pm, \$5. With DJs Delon, Add One and Yamu spinning dance

Dedicated Followers of Fashion Ruby Room.

10pm-2am, Pop music.

Grateful Dead DJ Nite Ashkenaz. 10pm, \$5.

With Digital Dave.

Psycho-Synthesis Lost City 23 Club, 23 Vistacion, Brisbane; (415) 467-7717. 9pm-2am. Industrial, techno, and trance.

Reggae Lounge On Broadway, 334 Broadway, Jack London Sq, Oakl; (510) 663-8189. 9pm-2am, \$6. With Peja Peja, Polo Mo'xquuz, and Ashanti Hi Fi.

So Many Styles Eli's Mile High Club. 8pm. Funk, soul, and R&B with Styles and Kendread.

Soundboutique Ivy Room. 10pm. With residents Jacob and Sean.

Classical

Roy Bogas and Geraldine Walther UCSE. Cole Hall Auditorium, 513 Parnassus; 476-2675. Noon, free. The pianist and violist perform Bloch's Sonata for Viola and Piano. Gilbert Kalish San Francisco Conservatory of Music, 1201 Ortega; 759-3475. 8pm, \$6-10.

Continued on page 73

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9

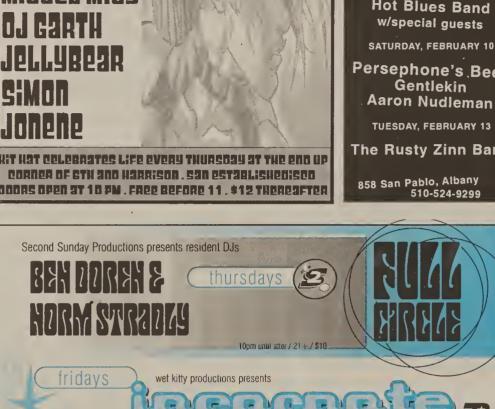
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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

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music calendar

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Just say ho

t was recently brought to my attention that I write about drugs in a flippant manner far too often and that I use the narcotics theme as a crutch in attempting to be funny. Oddly, it was my friend in N.A. and a couple hard-core cokeheads who awakened me to this error. I apologize. Sort of. Although I find humor in the shady side, I do not wish to imply to authority figures, children, and decent grandma types that drugs are in any way, shape, or form a part of the universal club scene. Uh, because they're certainly not. When I crack jokes about drugs, I am simply pulling from my own twisted life experiences and trash-can imagination. I am not an advocate of drugs, nor do I partake in contraband as often as one might assume. In fact, I am an angel and a saint and have never had sex, sworn, or stolen anything from Walgreens. I have never even had a bong hit or listened to heavy metal records backward.

But shit damn, last weekend sure was different! Me and Pimpmaster scored two big, fat hits of E and headed straight to the science museum in Golden Gate Park, where we rigorously dorked out on physics and dead stuffed animals while safely evading cavity searches up our timid ass cracks for hidden hits of whatever. Yes, we explored the wondrous world of knowledge all day long, and we discovered many crucial things, like how much we weigh on Jupiter. And when the pills exploded in our systems, we naturally leapt at the opportunity to attend a show at the Planetarium, which is a nice place to scam on bossy Boy Scouts who shout out the names of planets before the announcer has a chance: "Der! That's Uranus, you stinky butt wad!"

I was prepared for the sexy lights and groovy fake shooting stars, but certainly not for the cranky astronomer's chilling lesson on existentialism: "So you think you're special here on planet Earth? Guess again! Our sun is only one of billions, so we are nothing but specks of minute irrelevance ..." I found his narrative ego-crushing yet highly illuminating: if our stupid little lives on planet Earth are nothing, why waste time worrying about all the dumb shit, like paying taxes and going to work? We are but one of billions, and according to the announcer, there are probably zillions of other life forms out there that are far doper than ours — so why not put on your cowboy hat on and party like fuck (actually, can we please leave the cowboy hats back in 1995?)?

Despite the philosophical dilemmas that the hella big universe presents, the science museum proved to be the perfect environment for getting into the despicable mood of Valentine's Day, a holiday that impels singletons to binge on chocolate or whack off to snuff films. So there, among the four-foot fish and the two-headed snake, the E made me slightly emotional and vaguely romantic. "Would you date me even if my leg was amputated?" I asked the pimp, who had expressed pity toward my limping state (note: I fell hard on my ass/knee last week in "Word Up, San Jose!," 1/31/00).

"Hell, yeah," he said. "I'd still do you if you had a stump."

"Wow, that's so rad!" I exclaimed. "But what if it was part of the Jewish religion where I couldn't get to heaven unless you ate my amputated leg? Would you munch on that?"

"That's fucking sick," the pimp snapped. He took a few seconds to consider my request and then looked gently into my eyes. "But I've heard of people doing that before. I guess I could. Could I barbecue it?"

I knew instantly that he was the man of my dreams. "I'd prefer you to deep-fry it, but I guess it's all up to you.'

"Would I be able to smother your leg in A.1. sauce?"

"Of course!" I cried, as we fell into a rapturous moment of sweaty-palmed groping. "You are so fucking adorable that I think I have to quote R. Kelly right about now: "You remind me of my Jeep."

Needless to say, the rest of the afternoon was filled with joyous yet limp lovemaking - up until the hour when the pimp had to drive across town to pick up his other ho. Ah, the subtleties of romance.

Clubbing crap

Since I was a gimp all week and was unable to shake it, I decided to ask around to see what the stumpless crowd was up to. Aside from the glo stick sex party, I didn't miss much

Here goes: Nearly everyone, including all the Bitter Bunions, worked their big old booties at the Little Louie Vega show, and no one caught the Mandy Patinkin special on HBO. DJ Dom Some of Step, the Friday night 2-step party at An Sibin, sounded in dire need of a six-hour nap: "I donned my Red Bull wings and floated around 'Boh! Boh!'-ing all my fellow DJs: 'Dane-jah! Dane-jah! ... Oh my gawsh!" See what I mean?

Polywog and her MCing and conga-playing Tadpoles got hugely busy at her Playhouse, where the crunchy and the suave mingle and coalesce every Wednesday night inside the Hush Hush, making this one of freshest weeklies in town. Some people dorked out: Jon Williams played Monopoly and "messed around" at the Sutro Baths (sounds dirty), while Markie of Wicked listened to ELO records on Saturday (slightly worrisome). A few people, aside from me, the pimp, and all his hos, got laid: Brian Benitez of Betalounge.com went to the glo stick sex party with DJ Monty Luke and then to M3's birthday at Green Gorilla, after which he hooked up with a "curvy friend" (but does it count if he met her and her boobs at the naked glo stick rager?). And Kevin Koga, the gnarliest house DJ this side of Jupiter, gave me a lot of attitude when I inquired about his on so fascinating weekend: "Some girl e-mailed me and tried to get me to do her job. Sucka!" Whatever. Back to Uranus.

Don't miss Twice as Nice Fri/9, 111 Minna, S.F. (415) 974-1719. Special guest Mukul, Talvin Singh's DJ. Plus Laird, Andrew Jervis, and residents Tom Thump and Cool Chris. All styles of booty-moving music.

Wanna be a Tadpole? Check out Mistress Polywog at www.djpolywog.org. Send comments or tips to ladymarmalade@sfbg.com.



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DJ Randall 6-10:30pm Pascal Bokar 11pm

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Tuesday February 13,

The Posies

Fri/9-Sat/10, Johnny Foley's

The Posies are still just Ken Stringfellow and Jon Auer, and they still don't feel like plugging in: they've always done whatever comes naturally, and for the last six months that's meant touring around Europe and the United States as an acoustic duo. Fans of the Posies during their heyday say the Seattle rock group defined the power pop revival by com-

bining the rawness of Hüsker Dij with the cool air of a Hollies melody. In this small club atmosphere, expect the harmonies on "Dream All Day" and "Somehow Everything" --- as well as some uncharacteristic but well-executed covers like "Ooh Child" and Cheap Trick's "Surrender"



 to rise to the surface, Paula Frazer joins the Posies on Friday; Scott Miller shares the stage on Saturday. 8 p.m., 243 O'Farrell, S.F. \$12-\$14. (415) 954-0777. (Also Sat/10, 2 p.m., Amoeba Music, 1855 Haight, S.F. Free. 415-831-1200.) (Deborah Giattina)

Thursday 8

The pianist performs works by Fauré and Schoenberg with fellow faculty members, including cellists Jean-Michel Fonteneau and Bonnie Hampton, violist Paul Hersh, and violinist Ian Swenson, as well as students. Hiroko Kunitake Old First Church. 8pm, \$7-9. The pianist performs works by Chopin.
San Francisco Symphony Davies Symphony Hall, 401 Van Ness; 864-6000. 8pm, \$28-80. Through Sun/11. See Wed/7.

friday 9

Rock/blues/hip-hop

Billy Blues and the Goat Hill Gun Slingers Skip's Tavern. 9:30pm. Through Sat/10. Blues Power Saloon. 4pm. Box Set, Chuck Prophet Slim's. 9pm, \$13-14.

Brodys Tongue and Groove. 9pm. Cubby Creatures, AM Vibe, Planets West

Kimo's. 9:30pm.
Steve Gannon Band Cosmopolitan Cafe, 121

Fluff Grrl, Rosemary's Billygoat Covered

Wagon Saloon. 6pm, \$3. Like, Totally Deuces, 2319 Taraval; 566-9122.

Tony Mattioli's Stolen Bibles Blue Lamp.

Mover, Dave Gleason and the New Originals Voodoo Lounge. 9:30pm. New Ganagas, They Call Me Lucky, Andy

Peter Show Tempest. 9pm, \$5.
Johnny Nitro Saloon. 9:30pm. Also Sun/11. PBR Street Gang, Stolen Bibles, Jack Grace

Last Day Saloon. 9pm, \$5.

Posies, Paula Frazer Johnny Foley's. 8pm \$12-14. Through Sat/10. See Critic's Choice.
Julie Plug, Picnic, Go Kart Go Paradise

Lounge. 8:30pm. With Blind Lemon Phillips in the upstairs lounge.

Real, Luce Hotel Utah. 9pm.

Sick, Will Haven, Lica Sto, Broken Vision Bot-

tom of the Hill. 9pm, \$7.
Soul Machine Boom Boom Room. 9:15pm,

Souls of Mischief Amoeba Music. 6pm. See

Vinyl, Jethro Jeremiah Band Great American Music Hall. 9pm, \$12.50.

Bay Area

Sam Densmore's Silver Hawk, Ruby Mar, Brian Kenny Fresno, White Piano Port Lite.

Gun and Doll Show, Chazz Cats Starry

Terry Haggerty 19 Broadway. 9:30pm, \$10. Hellbillys, Divit, Teenage Harlots, Deficient, Amo Corps 924 Gilman. 8pm, \$5. Me'Shell Ndegéocello Kimball's East. 8 and 10pm, \$28. Through Sat/10. S.E. Willis and the Roscoes Baltic. 9:15pm.

Jazz/new music

Patricia Bahia Café Claude, 7:30pm. Bitches Brew Elbo Room. 10pm, \$6. Black Market Jazz Orchestra Top of the Mark. 9pm, \$10. Also Sat/10.

Pascal Bokar Butterfly. 11pm. With DJ Ran-Brass Monkey Bruno's. 9 and 11pm, \$7. Dick Conte Trio Cobali Tavern. 7pm.

Phillip Crawford-Steve Fowler Duo Carta.

Bob Dalpe and the Compass Rose Quartet Westin St. Francis Hotel, 335 Powell; 39, 7000, 5:30pm.

Alan Hightman Simple Pleasures Cafe. Spin.
Steve Lucky and the Rhumba Bums Biscuits

Ricardo Scalas Argent Hotel, Jesters Lounge, 50 Third St; 974-6400. 8:30pm. Mal Sharpe and Big Money in Jazz Enrico's.

Lavay Smith and Her Red Hot Skillet Lickers

Cafe du Nord. 10pm, \$7. Snake Trio Circadia. 8pm, \$3. 'Underground Jazz Cabaret' ODC Theater, 3153 17th St; 863-9834. 8pm, \$12-20. See 8

Days a Week, page 62. Paula West Plush Room. 8pm, \$20-25. Mark Wright Sextet Jazz at Pearl's. 9:30pm. Through Sat/10.

Bay Area

Lithium House Jupiter. 8pm.
Poncho Sanchez Band Yoshi's. 8 and 10pm,

San Francisco Jazz Ensemble Allen Temple Family Life Center, 8501 International, Oakl; (510) 569-6183. 7:30pm, \$5-10.

Folk/world/country

Rahman Asadollahi Clarion Music Center, 816 Sacramento; 391-1317. 8pm, \$12. CD-re-

lease party.
Josh Jones Eastside West. 9pm.
Andrew Kerr, Edie Carey, Sam Shaber, Anne O'Meara Heaton, Teddy Goldstein Noe Valley
Ministry, 7:30pm, \$12-14. San Francisco
Bluegrass and Old-Time Festival showcase.
Paulito y Su Elite Kimball's Carnival, 522 Second St, Oakl; (510) 444-6979. 9pm, \$20. Through Sun/11. See 8 Days a Week, page

Sonando 850 Cigar Bar. 10pm.

Continued on page 75





Friday 2/9 **WONDERBREAD 5** (after the band) **DJ Manny Perez**

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THURS. 2/8, Two shows, Cork Club 8 & 10pm, \$15: OMAR SOSA

> FRI. 2/9, Cork Club 10pm, \$7: BRASS MONKEY

SAT. 2/10, Two shows, Cork Club 9 & 11pm, \$15: TREY GUNN OF KING CRIMSON Main Lounge, midnight, \$7:

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TUES. 2/13, Two shows, Cork Club 9 & 11PM, \$10: **MATTHEW** SHIPP TRIO

WED. 2/14 - THURS. 2/15 Cork Club 9pm \$9: WAYNE HORVITZ AMERICAN BANDSTAND Cork Club 11pm, \$9:

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And/Ornette X-tet 2/28

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music calendar

Friday 9

Sukay Peña Pachamama, 1630 Powell; 646-

Wailers, DJ Jahyzer Justice League. 9pm, \$20-

Waybacks, David Thom Band, All Wrecked **Up** Plough and Stars. 8pm. San Francisco Bluegrass and Old-Time Festival showcase. Yonder Mountain String Band Fillmore. 9pm,

Bay Area

Ancient Future Open Secret, 923 C St, San Rafael; (415) 457-4191. 7:30pm, \$12-15. Foundation, Ras Kidus, DJ Spliff Skankin'

Ashkenaz, 9:30pm, \$12. 'Mermeladas' Cafe de la Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk; (510) 849-2568. 8:30pm. Jam sessio Ralph Stanley and the Clinch Mountain Boys, Keystone Crossing Freight and Salvage. 8pm \$19.50-20.50. San Francisco Bluegrass and Old-Time Festival showcase. Keith Terry Trio Ashkenaz. 7pm, \$10.

Dance clubs

Activate Light, 839 Geary; 474-3216. 5-10pm, \$4. Techno happy hour with Kylen, Chameleon, and Brian Cox. Assimilate 2000 Cat Club. 9:30pm-3am.

With DJs Damon, and Viper.

Backflip 10pm-2am, \$5. House music with Romanowski and Behrouz.

Candy Sacrifice. 10pm-2am, \$5. Hip-hop, rock, and new wave with Spin and Grand T. Club NV 9:30pm. House and salsa with Greg Lopez, Von, and Tony O.

Club Nzinga El Rio. 9pm, \$7. Jose Ruiz spins

Cymbiosis Movida Lounge. 7pm. Hip-hop, Latin, and funk with Mike Styles. Electric Club Townsend. 10pm-6am, \$15-20.

House music with Mark Farina, Preston, Jonene, Tasho, and several others.

Fag Fridays Endup. 10pm-5:30am, \$8. With residents Rolo and Ruben Mancias. Far East Blind Tiger. 10pm-2am, \$5. House and 2-step with Paul Craven and guests.

Proglest An Sibin, 1176 Sutter; 929-1992. 6-9pm. With Deepfrog, Zeremy, and Smurx. Glitter Glas Kat. 10pm-2am. Deep house with Norm Stradley, Charles B., and Ben Happy Hour Escapades Glas Kat. 5:30-10pm.

House and rare grooves with Repete, Seven,

House Beautiful Sno-Drift, 10pm-4am. With Ellen Ferrato. Incarnate 238 Columbus; 979-3031. 9:30pm.

9pm-4am. Live disco music with Thunder-

Life VSF, 278 11th St; 210-8633. 10pm-2am.

Soul, R&B, club classics, and grooves.

Mandala Amoeba Music. 7pm.

Mexican Bus 9:15pm-2am, \$38, reservations required. '50s-style bus tour of several local alsa clubs

Metronome Ballroom 9pm-midnight, \$6-8. Latin dance party.

Mission K.O. 26 Mix. 10:30pm. With John

Howard, Consuelo, and Kevin. Nikita Ten 15 Folsom. 10pm, \$15. Ponzu Sessions Ponzu, 401 Taylor; 775-7979.

Pow! A Cocktail Lounge 6pm, \$3. Tribal house and Latin music with Be Smiley. **Radioactive** 375 First; 281-0866. 9pm-2am, \$10-15. With David Garcia, Joey Mazzola,

RKTech, and Durben.
Sequence Glas Kat. 10pm-2am. With RTigger, Bruce, Switch and rotating residents. Square Ruby Skye. 9pm-3am. House music with Anita Lofton and Franky Boissy. Step An Sibin, 1176 Sutter, 929-1992. 10pm-2am, \$5. 2-step with John Paul, Enzyme,

Dom Some, and guest Casper.

Therapy Blind Tiger. 6-10pm, \$5. House music spun hy Maurice and guests. ((Thump)) Space 550. 10pm, \$20. Dance music with the S.U.N. Project, Atum, and

Ultra Manhattan Lounge. 9pm-4am. House

music. **Wisdom** Nickie's BBQ. 9pn1-2am, Wisdom

Bay Area

Counterpoint Blake's. 9:30pm, \$5. Funk and hip hop with DJ Jay Slim.

Club Fusetti 10pm. Live Brazilian music with Sensasamba. Dance lesson with Aquarela at 9pm.

Ruby Room 10pm-2am. '70s and '80s glam, rock, and pop music

Classical

Peabody Trio Kohl Mansion, 2750 Adeline, Burlingame; (650) 343-8463. 7:30pm, \$5-15. The trio performs works by Haydn and Mozart, and is joined by violist Paul Yarbrough on Beethoven's Trio in Beflat

saturday 10

Rock/blues/hip-hop

Amazing Embarrassonics El Rio. 10pm, \$5. Billy Blues and the Goat Hill Gun Slingers Skip's Tavern, 9:30pm.

Daniel Castro Saloon, 9:30pm

Chub, Los Pancheros, Tubesteak Jones Bot-

tom of the Hill. 10pm, \$7. Faraway Brothers Blue Lamp. 9:30pm. Filthmilk, Uppercrust, Miss Fib Tempest.

9pm, \$5. Five Degrees of Soul Elbo Room. 10pm, \$6. Jim Greer, Killian MacGeraghty, Essence, David Hopkins Hotel Utah. 8:30pm. CDrelease party for Jim Green

Loose Lips, Pattern, Jack Saints Covered

L.A. Guns, Davy Vain, American Heartbreak, Sparrow's Point Pound SF, Pier 96, 100 Cargo; 826-9202. 8pm, \$12. See 8 Days a

Mates of State, Henry Miller Sextet, Javert

M.I.R.V., Bluebeard, Downtemper Slim's. 9pm,

moe. Warfield. 8pm, \$20. Posies Amocha Music. 2pm. See Critic's

Posies, Scott Miller Johnny Foley's. 8pm, \$12-

Stymie, West by God, Rabid Rat Fondue, Bitches Brew Paradise Lounge. 8:30pm. Finis Tasby Boom Boom Room. 9:15pm, \$10. Wonderbread 5 Last Day Saloon. 9pm, \$10. Dave Workman Saloon, 4pm.

Bay Area

Cushion Theory, Sam the Butcher, Second Sight Port Lite. 9pm, \$5.
Paula Helene, Mark Berringer Band Baltic.

Life's Halt, Rocket Queen, Barry Man-O-War, Rosemary's Billygoat, Adversives 924

Gilman. 8pm, \$5. Me'Shell Ndegeocello Kimball's East. 8 and

Positive Knowledge Funky Soul Stop, 1811 Jefferson, Oakl; (510) 452-2452. 3pm Amy Rigby, Penelope Houston and Pat Johnson, Tina Starry Plough, 9:45pm, \$7 Sleezeband, Fatty, Hesher Connolly's, 4301 Telegraph; (510) 654-4514. 2:30pm. Songo, Wayside Blake's. 9:30pm, \$5. Starduster Drchestra, DJ Tonic 19 Broadway.

Jazz/new music

Don Alberts Cypress Club. 8:30pm. Also

Gerald Beckett Jazz Trio Garibaldi Cafe, 1600 17th St; 552-3325. 7pm. Richie Begin Cosmopolitan Cafe, 121 Spear;

543-4001. 8pm. Rhonda Benin and Soulful Strut Enrico's.

Cannonball Bruno's. 10pm, \$7 Phillip Gelb and Hugh Livingston Meridian Gallery, 545 Sutter; 398-7229, 8pm, \$5-10. Hammond Cheese Combo Club Deluxe.

Shan Kenner Trio Eastside West. 9pm Anton Krukowski-Tim Foley Duo, Phillip Crawford-Steve Fowler Duo, Mitch Schrift-Alexander Smith Duo Carta. 9pm. Michael LaMacchia Trio Cobalt Tavern.

Lily Layton and the Jazz Ooctors Café

BJ Papa Cafe Prague, 584 Pacific; 433-3811. Marcus Shelby Jazz Orchestra Butterfly.

11pm. With DJ Label.
Paula West Plush Room. 8 and 10:30pm,

Continued on page 76



Troy Roberts (Nikita, Spuadae/San fraacisco: Greg Sandler (Narmonica/Andioactive) Alias tranquility/san Fractiscol
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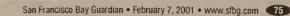
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Thursday, February 8 ED KELLEY W/ ROBERT STEWART, **ART LEWIS** MARK WILLIAMS

Friday, February 9 TBA

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Saturday, February 10 CREATION REGGAE 10pm

Sunday, February 11 CHARLES MCNEAL **COMBUSTION** 4-8pm

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THURSDAYS Re-Mix presents

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music calendar

rock, jazz, folk/world, dance clubs & classical

Saturday 10

From page 75

Bay Area

Ashley Adams Trio, Jenny Shineman Quartet Tuva Space, 3192 Adeline, Berk; (510) 444-3595. 8pm, \$8-10.

Donald 'Duck' Bailey and the Distones, Anna and Federico Cervantes Anna's, 1801 University, Berk; (510) 849-2662. 8pm. Corner Pocket Jupiter's. 8pm.

Poncho Sanchez Band Yoshi's, 8 and 10pm,

Two Foot Yard, Salane and friends 21 Grand, Oakl; (510) 444-7263. 8pm, \$5-10.

Folk/world/country

Any Dld Time, Kathy Kallick Band, Dark Hollow Noe Valley Ministry, 7:30pm, \$16-18, San Francisco Bluegrass and Old-Time Festival

Earthquake Country, Bill Foss and Martha Hawthorne, Whiskey Brothers Atlas C 3pm. San Francisco Bluegrass and Old-Time

John San Francisco Bruegrass and Old-Time Festival showcase. Josh Jones Quartet 850 Cigar Bar. 10pm. Mr. Lucky Simple Pleasures Cafe. 8pm. Deborah Pardes Circadia. 8pm, \$3. Paulito y Su Elite Kimball's Carmyal, 522 Second St. Oakl; (510) 444-6979, 9pm, \$20. Through Sun/11. See 8 Days a Week, page 62.
RPM Plough and Stars. 9pm.

Wailers, DJ Jahyzer Justice League. 9pm,

Bay Area

Baguette Quartet Freight and Salvage. 8pm,

Led Kapaan Dance Palace, Fifth St at B St, Point Reyes Station; (415) 663-1075. 8pm,

Piedmont Bluegrass and Jam Cato's Ale

SoVoSo Osher Marin Jewish Community Center, 200 North San Pedro, San Rafael; (415) 479-2000. 8pm, \$24-28. Street Sounds La Peña Cultural Center. 8pm,

Taneen Seventh Heaven, 2820 Seventh St.

West African Highlife Band Ashkenaz. 10pm,

\$11. Dance lesson at 9:30pm.
Zorman and Yampels Ashkenaz. 6:30pm, \$12.
Drquesta La Moderna Tradición Kimball's

Carnival, 522 Second St, Oakl; (510) 444-6979. 9:30pni, \$15.

Dance clubs

Backflip 10pm-2am, \$5. House music with

Backstreet Space 550. 10pm-3am. Bas 9:30pni-2ani. House, salsa and club

Baysiks Top. 7-10pm. With J. Falcone, Fic-tion, John Paul, Enzyme, and Dom Some. Bobbi Meyers Light, 839 Geary; 474-3216. 10pm-2am. With Arkay, Phil Salter, and Iggy. Bottom Heavy Top. 10pm-2am. U.K. garage and drum 'n' bass with various residents. Conceptions Hush Hush Lounge. 10pm-2am, \$5. With Vinnie Esparza and Soulsalaam. Eklektic Cat Club. 10pm-3am. Drum 'n' bass with rotating residents.

House and deep tech with rotating residents.

Elsewhere Galaxy, 1840 Haight; 861-5265.

8pin-2am, \$5. With Simon, Ben Davis, and Dirty Joey.

Escapade Ruby Skye. 7pm-3am, \$20. With resident BB Hayes and guests.

Fogfest An Sibin, 1176 Sutter; 929-1992.

8pm-2am, \$3. With Deepfrog, Zeremy, DJ

murx, and guests.

FutureRoots Movida Lounge. 9pm. With Kevin and Huckster.

Groove Kitty Glas Kat. 9:30pm-2am. House music, trip-hop, and rare grooves with resi-Hektic Cat Club. 10pm-3am. Breaks with res-

Hit Parade Nickie's BBQ. 9pm-2am. Kevin and George spin disco, funk, and soul. Ladies Night Club 238, 238 Columbus; 434-1308. 9pm-6am. Deep house with DJ Midi-

Lifted Soul HiFi. 9pm. Deep house with Dwight Johnson

Metronome Ballroom 9pm-midnight, \$6-8.

Mexican Bus 9:15pm-2ani, \$38, reservations

required. '50s-style bus tour of several local

Neither Neither World Kimo's. 9pm. With DJs Nosferatu, Dante, and Retromesh.

Other Whirled Endup. 6am-4pm. With Nobel, Vince, Christine, and Daniel. Dushaya VSF, 278 11th St; 1-800-581-2107.

9pm-2am, \$15. pHusion 111 Minna St. 10pm-2am, \$10. With Tomas, Jonah Sharp, and Andrew Jervis. Ponzu Sessions Ponzu, 401 Taylor; 775-7979.

Pow! A Cocktail Lounge 9pm, \$3. House

music with Fadrian and Sutake.'
Release Ten 15 Folsom. 10pm-6am, \$20.
Remedy Big Heart City. 9pm-4am. House, and R&B.

San Francisco Butter. 9pm. With rotating residents Lele, Dano, JZ, David Coleman, and Sen-sei.

Scuba Manhattan Lounge. 10pm. House music with David Alvarado, Julius Papp, and

Sexy Provocative Schroeder's, 240 Front; 289-2030, ext 4. 9:30pm-2am. R&B, hip-hop, dancehall, and club classics with T.D., ranzen, D-Sharp, and Rolo 1-3.

Speed 1028 Geary; 430-2190, ext 1374 9pm-2am. Hip-hop, R&B, and soul with Mind

Motion and Franzen.

Sub Zero Sno-Drift. 10pni-4:30am. House and U.K. garage with resident Sean Ferguson and guest Tony.

Subterra Ten 15 Folsom, 10pm-6am. With

resident Tom Thump and guest Chris Hay-

Supastar Sacrifice. 10pm-2am, \$5. With local

Three Down 26 Mix. 9pm-2am, \$6. House music with M3 and Mauricio.

Universe Club Townsend. 10pm-4am, \$14. House music with David Harness and Bud Chism. CD-release party for Boy George.

Bay Area

Contra Dance Marin Masonic Lodge, 1010 Lootens, San Rafael; (415) 892-2658. 8pm, \$2-7. With caller Jerry Allen and live music Flashpoint.

Gravity Club Fusetti. 10pm. Funk, R&B, soul, and house. Club's anniversary party.

Platforms Zazoos, 15 Embarcadero West, Jack

London Square, Oakl; (510) 869-1317.

Rimshot Bench and Bar, 120 11th St; (510) 839-0580. 9pm, \$6-8. With Mulatto E., Chris Johnson, Naughtyboy, and Sekou spinning hip-hop, R&B, house, and reggae.

Classical

Conservatory Orchestra San Francisco Conservatory of Music, 1201 Ortega; 759-3475. 8pm, \$6-10. The orchestra plays works by John Adams, Haydn, Launy Grondahl, and Bartók; Alasdair Neale conducts.

Gonzalo Salazar War Memorial Veterans Building, Green Room, 401 Van Ness; 242-4500. 8pm, \$20. The classical guitarist gives a

San Francisco Symphony Davies Symphony Hall, 401 Van Ness; 864-6000. 2pm, \$5-46. The symphony performs a special concert

Bav Area

'Masters of Persian Music' UC Berkeley, Zellerbach Hall, Berk; (510) 642-9988. 8pm, \$20-40. See 8 Days a Week, page 62. Philharmonia Baroque Drchestra First Con-

gregational Church, 2345 Channing, Berk; (415) 979-4500. 8pm, \$32-46. The orchestra, under the direction of Bruce Lamott, performs works by Purcell, Rameau, and Campra. Through Sun/11.

sunday 11

Rock/blues/hip-hop

Steve Ashbrook Albion, 3139 16th St; 552-

G.G. Amos and the Magic Band Boom Boom

Brass Monkey Make-Out Room. 8:30pm,

Cartoon Boyfriend, O Mysterious Ice Worms Paradise Lounge. 8:30pm, \$4. With Drums 'n' Space in the upstairs lounge. Regi Harvey's blues jam Skip's Tavern. 4pm.

Continued on page 79

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dancing and drumming.

-Alice Magazine

music calendar

Sunday 11 From page 76

Kirby Grips, Chantigs, Keeners Bottom of the Hill. 5:30pm, \$6. With all-you-can-eat BBQ

Music Lovers, Popgun Cafe du Nord. 8:30pm,

S5.
King Perkoff Band Saloon. 4pm.
Promise Ring, Deathray, Actionslacks Great
American Music Hall. 9pm, \$10-12.
Three Hour Tour Kimo's. 4pm.

Bay Area Prodigals Blake's, 9:30pm, \$6. Wig Salad Ashkenaz, 9pm, \$8.

Jazz/new music

Rich Armstrong Quartet Starlight Room.

Dr. Margie Baker and Her Trio San Francisco Maritime Park, Fisherman's Wharf at Hyde Street Pier, Hyde at Jefferson; 556-3002. 3pm,

Dpie Bellas Top of the Mark. 8:30pm, \$8. Smith Dobson, Jr. Simple Pleasures Cafe.

Dorothy and Henry Piaf's, 11:30am-2:30pm. Larry Douglas Jazz Band Les Joulins. 8pm

Walter Earl Enrico's. 7pm. Global Vision Kelly's Mission Rock, 817 China

Basin; 626-5355. 10am. Gerry Grosz Quartet Old First Church. 5pm.

Love Motel Rassellas. 6pm. Larry D'Leno Piano Bar, 1092 Post; 771-2022.

Mitch Schrift-Alexander Smith Duo Carta.

Paula West Plush Room. 5pm, \$20.

Bay Area

Rhonda Benin and Cedricke Dennis Baltic.

Big Boys Cato's Ale House, 6pm. Gianni Gebbia and Micheal Manring, Garth Powell, Simple Sample Tima Space, 3192
Adeline, Berk; (510) 444-3595. 7:48pm, \$8.
Jazz jam session Bluesville, 8pm.
Poncho Sanchez Band Yoshi's, 2 and 8pm,

Slide, Dori and Dave 19 Broadway. 4:30pm

Folk/world/country

Jen Chapin, Amy Meyers, Liz Anah Hotel Utah. 8:30pm. See 8 Days a Week, page 62. Paulito y Su Elite Kimhall's Carmval, 522 Second St, Oakl: (510) 444-6979. 9pm, \$20. See

Seisuin Plough and Stars. 7pm. With Jack Gilder, Junji Shirota, and Kevin Bernhagen.

Bay Area

Bob Franke, Jen Chapin Freight and Salvage. 8pm, \$16.50-17.50. See 8 Days a Week, page

Laurel Canyon Ramblers Sweetwater. 7:30pm, \$20. With David Grisman. San Francisco Bluegrass and Old-Time Festival

Open mic Stork Club, 9pm.
Emilio Perez y su Conjunto Cani Port Lite.

'Starry Session' Starry Plongli. 8pm. With

Dance clubs

Bionic Top. 10pm-2am. With Solar, Mark E.

Booty Base Beanty Bar. 10pm-2am. Electro and bass music with Paz 38, Saiki, and

Den Galaxy, 1840 Haight; 387-2996. 6-9pm. Happy hour with Seven and Blue. 9pm-2am. With Dano, JZ, and fredness.

Dub Mission Elbo Room. 9pm-2am, \$6. Dub and roots reggae with Sep and Ron.

Magnitude B.D. N'Touch Dance Club, 1548

Polk; 444-8413. 8pm-2am. With Jack Rojo, Lambchop, Shawn Perry, and Derek.

Metronome Ballroom 5-8pm, \$5. Jitterbug dance party. 8-11pm, \$5-8. Salsa night. Pleasuredome Club Townsend. 9pm-3:30am, \$7. With Neil Lewis and Jeff Johnson.

Rebirth 330 Ritch. 10pm. Soul and hip-hop with Henry, Joe Quixx, Kevvy Kev, and Will. Reggae Sundaze Nickie's BBQ. 9pm-2am, \$5 Reggae music spun by DJ King David, General Patton, and other residents.

Spindrift Hush Hush Lounge. 8pm-midnight,

Continued on page 81



2 Clubs in 1!

Sunday, February 18

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND - 6PM

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD-6PM

SMALLSTONE

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FRIDAY, FEB 9

rock, jazz, folk/world, dance clubs & classical

music calendar

Sunday 11

\$3. Ambient music with DJ Mermaid. Spundae 1015 Folsom. 10pm-5:30am, \$5. With rotating DJs and guests. Sunday School Sno-Drift. 10pm-4am, \$10.

With Patrick Wilson, Ruben Mancias, and other resident DJs.

Sushi 26 Mix. 5-11pm, \$5. With DJ Gray

and rotating residents. **T-Dance** Endup. 6am. House music with rotating residents.

Tripp Beale Street Bar and Grill, 133 Beale; 543-1961. 6pm-2am, \$5-8. With rotating residents.

Classical

Peabody Trio Fort Mason Center, Cowell The-ater, Marina at Buchanan; 392-4400. 11am, \$30. See Fri/9.

San Francisco Symphony Davies Symphony Hall, 401 Van Ness; 864-6000. 2pm, \$28-80.

Dave Scott Community Music Center, 544 Capp; 647-6015. 4pm, \$5-10. The trumpeter joins the center's orchestra in a performance of works by Haydn and Hummel.

Bay Area

Community Women's Drchestra Malcolm X School, 1731 Prince, Berk; (510) 653-1616.

4pin. Ann Krinitsky conducts the orchestra through works by Mendelssohn, Schubert, Katya Lopez, Ariel Wolter, and Maianna

Berk; (510) 642-9988. 3pm, \$24-42. The Cuban American pianist performs works by Berg, George Perle, Schumann, and Beethoven. Horacio Gutièrrez UC Berkeley, Hertz Hall,

Ann Panagulias Osher Marin Jewish Community Center, 200 North San Pedro, San Rafael; (415) 479-2000. 5pm, \$24-28. The so-prano, accompanied by pianist Richard Pearson Thomas, performs works by Schubert, Wolf, Poulenc, Britten, Ravel, and

Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra First Congregational Church, 2345 Channing, Berk; (415) 979-4500. 8pm, \$32-46. See Fri/9.

Russian Chamber Drchestra St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 3 Bay View, Belvedere; (415) 927-1446. 5pm, \$17-20. The orchestra performs works by Glinka, Tchaikovsky, Shostakovich, and Borodin. Alexander Vereshagin is the conductor and Sergei Polusmiak is the featured pianist.

Jacques Thiebaud String Trio Kohl Mansion, 2750 Adeline, Burlingame; (650) 343-8463. 7pm, \$10-22. The trio gives a recital of works by Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, and others,

monday 12

Rock/blues/hip-hop

Bachelors Saloon. 9:30pm.

Coldplay Fillmore. 8pm, \$15. See A&E fea-

Regi Harvey's open mic Skip's Tavern. 7pm. Curtis Lawson Baom Boom Room. 9:15pm,

Mixx DJ competition Great American Music Hall. 10pm. With Common. 'Monday Night Hoot' Cafe dn Nord. 9:30pm, \$5. With Eric Shea and Molly Tuttle.

Dpen mic Hotel Utah. 7:30pm. With Dayla

Planets West, Built like Alaska Make-Ont Room. 8:30pm, \$6.
That One Guy and His Magic Pipe Elbo Room.

9pm, \$4. Them There, Headlands Band, One Trick

Pony Bottom of the Hill, 9pm, \$5.

Bay Area

'Blue Monday Jam' Blake's. 9:30pm, \$3. With the Steve Gannon Band.

Country Pete McGill and friends A&C Club, 1950 San Pabla, Oakl; (510) 893-4100. 9pm. Jill Scott, Jamie Hawkins Paramount Theatre. 8pm, \$29.50-65.

Jazz/new music

Shana Carlson Enrico's, 7pm.
Contemporary Jazz Drchestra Jazz at Pearl's.

Ezra Gale Trio North Star Restaurant, 288 Connecticut; 551-9840. 6pm.

Barbara Hunter Quintet Les Joulins, 8pm. Steve Lucky and the Rhumba Bums Starlight

Denise Perrier Mecca, 2029 Market; 621-

Bay Area

Clairdee and Ken French Yoshi's. 8 and 10pm,

Dominic Duval Mills College, Concert Hall, 5000 MacArthur, Oakl; (510) 430-2331.

Jazz improv jam session Black Dot Cafe, 2330 International, Oakl; (510) 533-6629. 9pm, \$3.

Folk/world/country

Acoustic open mic Blue Lamp. 9:30pm. Liza Silva y Voz Do Brazil Top of the Mark.

Bay Area

'Ceili' Starry Plough. 9pm. Ledward Kaapana 19 Broadway. 9:30pm,

Jez Lowe Freight and Salvage. Spm, \$15.50-

Dance clubs

Club Dread Justice League. 9pm, \$10. Forward An Sibin, 1176 Sutter; 929-1992. 8pm-2am, \$3. Urban music with BVDub, Monkey, and 4AM.

Grateful Dead Jams Nickie's BBQ. 9pin-2am. Dark Star Dan plays rare Grateful Dead

Dpen turntables Movida Lounge. 8pm. Rockin' Java 1821 Haight; 831-8842. 7pm.

Hip-hop and open mic. Shaft Stud. 9pm-2am, \$5. Hip-hop, reggae, and R&B with Mind Motion, Switch, and

Smoove Blind Tiger. 9pm-2am. House music. Star Lounge Up & Down Club. 10pm-2am, \$5. DJ Henry and guests spin soul, dancehall, and hip-hop.
Tranquility Base 26 Mix. 9pm-2am. Ambient

sounds with DF Tram and guests.

Tranquilo Annesia. 10pm-2am. Drum 'n' bass, downtempo, and abstract hip-hop with

Kamahele, Presha, and G.A.S. **Vroom** *El Rio. 8pm-midnight.* Punk, funk, and soul.

Classical

Jack Van Geem San Francisco Conservatory of Music, 1201 Ortega; 759-3475. 8pm, \$6-10. The percussionist gives a recital with Nancy Zeltsman on marimba.

tuesday 13

Rock/blues/hip-hop

Rico Bell, Amy Rigby Cafe dn Nord. 9:30pm,

Christines, Little John, Davies Bottom of the

Julia Fordham, Matt Nathanson Bimbo's 365

Club. 8pm, \$18-20. Andrew Freeman Band Blue Lamp. 9:30pm.

Luckie Strike Saloon. 9:30pm.
Big Bill Morganfield Biscurts and Blues. 8:30 and 10:30pm, \$15. See Microgrooves, page

Oscar Myers' Bluesbeat Boom Boom Room.

9:15pm, \$1. 'New Roots to Hip-Hop' Last Day Saloon.

9pm, \$5. With Felonious.
Ohm, Ludovico's Technique, +1 Kimo's.

9:30pm. Open mic El Rio. 7:30pm. Our Lady of the Highway, Ted Hotel Utah.

Tricotick, Peel, Los Conchilnos Paradise

Lounge. 8:30pm. With open mic with Babs in the upstairs lounge.

Garrin Benfield Band 19 Broadway. 9:30pm. Roux, Len Patterson Blake's. 9:30pm, \$3

Jazz/new music

Ezra Gale Trio Ammesia. 9pm. Gerry Grosz Trio Beach Chalet. 6:30pm. Hot Club of San Francisco Enrico's. 7pm. Vince Lateano Trio Jazz at Pearl's. 9pm.

Continued on page 82









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music calendar

Tuesday 13

Paul Mindrup Simple Pleasures Cafe. 8pm. Fred Ross Project Startight Room, 8pm.
Matthew Shipp Trio Bruno's, 9 and 11pm,

Lavay Smith and Her Red Hot Skillet Lickers

Top of the Mark. 8:30pm, \$8.

Bishop Norman Williams Quintet Les Joulins.

Bay Area

Mad and Eddie Duran Albaiross, 1822 San Pablo, Berk; (510) THE-BIRD. 9pm. Nancy Wilson Yoshi's. 8 and 10pm, \$22. Through Sun/18.

Folk/world/country

Dave Rocha Trio Butterfly. 10pm. With DJ

Seisuin Plough and Stars. With Suzanne

Cronin and friends.

Vivendo de Pão Elbo Room. 9pm, \$6.

Bay Area

John Herald, Reedy Buzzards Freight and Salvage. 8pm, \$15.50-16.50. Open mic Starry Plough. 7:30pm. Danny Poullard and friends Ashkenaz. 9pm,

Dance clubs

Asia Africa Arabia Nickie's BBQ. 9pm-2am.
DJ Cheb I Sabbah spins a blend of internaonal music

Coolin' Blind Tiger. 9pm-2am. With TJ and

Development AsiaSF 10pm. Option, Reference and Raygun spin breakbeat and house. Down There 26 Mix. 9pm-2am. Hip-hop and downtempo with residents Monkey and

F#@! Tuesdays Backflip. 10pm-2am. '80s music, soul, breakbeat, and hip-hop. Happy Hour Escapades Glas Kat. 5:30-10pm.

Latin and salsa music. Karamba Glas Kat. 9:30pm-2am. Node Pow! A Cocktail Lounge. 9pm-2am. Indie rock and electronica with Thorsten

Sideboard and guests.

Soul Samba Dalva, 3121 16th St; 252-7740.

10pm-2am. Latin beats with El Super Wax Sacrifice. 10pm-2am, \$5. Soul music with DJs Wisdom, Pause, and Sake One.
Wiggle Instice League. 9pm, \$5. Music, spoken word, video art, and fire performances with the Hall Monitors and DJs Fabuliz and

Bay Area

Club Fusetti 9pm. Hip-hop and R&B with

Mad Hatter Bench and Bar, 120 11th St; (510) 496-6000, ext 120. 9pm-2am, \$3-5. Under-

ground dance music. **Ruby Room** 10pm-2am. Punk rock

Seth Montfort Presidio Chapel, Presidio, 130 Fisher Loop; 362-6080. 8pm, \$10. The pianist performs an all-Chopin recital.

events

See 8 Days a Week for information on how to submit items to the listings.

wednesday 7

Around town

'How to Collect a Small Claims Court Judgment' Civic Center Courthouse, 400 McAllister; 551-4000. 10am, free. A collection attorney oversees this seminar sponsored by the Small Claims Advisory Clinic

Media coverage of the Middle East Com monwealth Club of California, 595 Market;

- Live From Los Angeles ---

Five Degrees of Soul

11pm & 12:30 • \$6 cover • Doors open 10pm



at The Elbo Room 647 Valencia, San Francisco



Where Every Night Is Ladies' Night

NOE VALLEY MINISTRY, 1021 SANCHEZ (near 23rd St.)

Fri., Feb. 9, 8:15pm "Live From New York" with singer/songwriters Andrew Kerr, Edie Carey, Sam Shaber, Anne O'Meara Heaton & Teddy Goldstein

The Lexington Club

3464 19th St. blwn Valencia & Mission A Totally 'GAY Club

"Any of these talented performers would merit a review of their own, but as a group they're an absolute riot - and living proof of New York's next full-fledged folk scene has arrived for real. Tomm Neft, Folk Music Listserver

Breaking attendance records in clubs and coffeehouses in the Northeastern U.S., "Live from NY" combines the lalents of 5 unique singer/songwriters of musical collaboration and off-the-cull humor

SF BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL
Sat., Feb. 10, 7:30pm
ANY OLD TIME - Reunion Concert
KATHY KALLICK BAND • DARK HOLLOW

In their first reunion performance in 10 years, the beloved **Any Old Time** string band features Suzy Thompson, Kate Bristin, Sure Draheim and Valarie Mindell. **Kathy Kallick** has been among the elite of contemporary songwriters and singers since co-tounding the **Good '01 Persons** in 1975. The band had a hit on the bluegrass charts last year with their album "**Walkin'** In **My Shees**," and plays a mix of traditional and contemporary bluegrass. **Dark He llow** is an up and coming band that plays maximum-energy, hardng bluegrass and has some of the Bay Area's hottest pickers

Fri., Feb. 18, 8:15pm - OMAR SOSA & JOHN SANTOS \$14adv/\$16door 8at., Feb. 17, 8:15pm - The 8F Pipers Club presents THE WEST COAST PIPING TIONOL \$16adv/\$18door for information call (415) 454-5238. To purchase advance lickets by mail, send checks to SF Live Arts. Box 862, Fairfax, CA 94978 Please specify which show you want. Your tickets will be held at the door



around town, authors, attractions & benefits

events calendar

597-6705. 7:30pm, \$12-15. A panel discussion is field on the impact of American media in the Israeli-Palestine conflict in the Middle East. Speakers include Alexander Cockburn, Nadine Naher, John Rothman, and Michael Londs with Barbasa Lubia and Michael Londs with Barbasa Lubia and and Michael Jacobs, with Barbara Lubin as

New Science and Syntropic Path of the Plenum' California Institute of Integral Studies, Namaste Hall, 1453 Mission; 575-6100. 7pm, free Mark Comings, a research scientist for the International Space Sciences Organization, lectures on this topic.

Telematic Connections; The Virtual Embrace San Francisco Art Institute, Lecture Hall, 800 Chestinut; 771-7020. 7:30pin, \$4-6. Curator Steve Dietz hosts a panel discussion of the participants in this recent gallery showing, including Kit Galloway, Sherrie Rabmowitz, Ken Goldberg, and Paul Sermon.

Bay Area

Deborah Hay Mills College, Walter A. Haus Parulion, studio one, 5000 MacArthur, Oakl; (510) 430-3250. 4pm, \$8-10. The dance artist gives a lecture and demonstration about her

Authors

Cara Black San Francisco Public Library, Sunset branch, 1305-18th Ave; 753-7130. 7pm, free. The author reads from Murder in

Alan Bonsteel, M.D. Solar Light Books, 2068 Uman; 567-6082. 7:30pm, free. The author discusses Stay Young. Start Now.

Joyce Catlett and Lisa Firestone Barnes and Noble, 2550 Taylor; 292-6762, 7-8:30pm, free The two authors host a seminar and sign copies of Fear of Intimacy.

Terry McMillan Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness;

392-4400. 8pm, \$17. The novelist and author of A Day Late and a Dollar Short is interviewed by Noah Griffin.

Susan Driean A Clean Well-Lighted Place for Books, 601 Van Ness, 441-6670, 7:30pm, free. The author reads from The Bullfighter Checks Her Makeup: My Encounters with Ex-

Lidia Yuknavitch City Lights Booksellers, 261 Columbus; 362-8193. 7pm, free. The author reads from Liberty's Excess.

Bay Area

Jay Bakker Book Passage, 51 Tamal Vista, Corte Madera; (415) 927-0960. 7:30pm, free. The son of Jim and Tammy Faye Bakker discusses Son of a Preacher Man: My Search for

Clegacy to Liberation: Politics and Culture of Revolutionary Asian Pacific America' Revo-lution Books, 2425 Chaming, Berk. (510) 843-1196. 7pm, \$2. Contributors Richard Aoki, Yuri Kochiyama, Sun Lee, and Dolly Veale discuss this anthology.

thursday 8

Around town

James Watson Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness; 392-4400. 8pm, \$17. The Nobel Prize-winning scientist is interviewed by science journalist Matt Ridley.

Bay Area

'Great Mount Diablo Day Hikes REI Berkeley, 1338 San Pablo, Berk; (510) 527-4140. 7pm, free. Ken Lavin of the Mount Diablo Interpretive Association gives a slide presentation

Benefits

'Babes in Toyland' FAO Schwartz, 48 Stock-ton; 782-6540. 8pm, \$40-50. This fundraiser for the Little Jim Club, a nonprofit that raises funds for the California Pacific Medical Center of San Francisco's pediatric and neonatal programs, features entertainment, a silent auction, toys, and games

Sing-A-Long Sound of Music' benefit for Frameline Castro Theatre, 429 Castro; 703-8620. 7pm, \$45. See 8 Days a Week, page 62. 'Tribal, Folk and Textile Arts' preview party and auction Museum of Craft and Folk Art, Fort Mason Center, Building A, Marina at Buchanan; 775-0991. 6pm, \$50-60. The Museum previews this upcoming exhibition with a silent auction fundraiser, hors d'oeuvres, and wine.

'Transman' benefit Club Indochme, 721 Sutter; 621-16-13. 9pm, \$10-12. This party and fundraiser benefiting female-to-male trans-sexual Christopher Tavelli's surgery features speakers Susan Stryker, James Green, Jordy Jones, and Gwendolyn Ann Smith, a silent auction on artwork, jewelry, and other items, and house and trance music spun by DJ Matthew Baker.

White Room Group: Emerging Bay Area Artists' Gallery 650, 650 Delancey; 512-7716. 6pm, free Seven members of the UC Berkeley's faculty and student bodies present their lithographs, oil paintings, and other art works. Profits from the sale of these items benefit America's Angels, a nonprofit group that works to curtail child abuse through educition and prevention.

Authors

Martin Aronson Salar Light Books, 2068 Union; 567-6082, 7:30pm, free. The author discusses Jesus and Lao Tzu.

Robert Cohen A Clean Well-Lighted Place for Books, 601 Van Ness; 441-6670, 7:30pm, free.

The novelist talks about Inspired Sleep.

Michael Parenti Modern Times Bookstore 888 Valencia; 282-9246, 7:30pm, free. The author discusses To Kill a Nation.

David Peristein Commonwealth Club of California, 595 Market; 832-5255. 8:30am, \$15-25. The author holds a workshop based on Solo Success: 100 Tips for Becoming a \$100,000-a-Year Freelancer.

Bay Area

Susan Griffin, Willy Wilkinson, Ellen Samuels, Dorothy Wall and Abe Doherty Samuels, Dorothy Wall and Ade Donerty Cody's Books, 2454 Telegraph, Berk; (510) 845-7852. 7:30pm, free. The authors talk about Stricken: Voices from the Hidden Epi demic of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome.

Susan Orlean Book Passage, 51 Tamal Vista, Corte Madera; (415) 927-0960. 7:30pm, free.

lfridav 9

Around town

'China: Where Books Began' San Francisco Center for the Book, 300 De Haro; 565-0545. 7pm, free. Book artist Margaret Davis lectures on Chinese innovations in the field. Jacqueline Maria Longstaff Fort Mason Cen-Buchanan: (650) 343-5202. 7:30pm, \$12. The author of Only One Sky to Fly In discusses "the most direct path to enlightenment."

Guadalupe Rivera Marin San Francisco Mudalupe Rivera Marin Rivera R senm of Modern Art, 151 Third St; 202-9700. 7pm, \$8. The daughter of Diego Rivera discusses the impact her father had on mural

art in the United States. Steve Martin Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness; 392-4400. 8pm, \$20. See 8 Days a Week, page 62.

Benefits

'Raising Hope' Fairmout Hotel, 950 Mason, Masonic Auditorium, 1111 California; 478-2277. 5:30pm, \$50-1500. This gala henelit and concert commemorates the reopening of the Fairmont Hotel and features Grammy-winning vocalist Natalie Cole and Tony Award-winning actor-singer Michael Craw ford. The evening begins with a black-tie dinner reception at the Fairmont, then moves to the Masonic for the performance before returning to the Fairmont for a post concert reception and gala. Proceeds benefit UC San Francisco's Comprehensive Cancer

Reading of Love is Enough Fort Mason Center, Blue Bear School of Music, San Francisco Playwright's Center, Building D, Marina at Buchanan; 626-4603. 7pm, \$10. Susan Nichols directs a staged reading of Donna Barrow's play to raise funds for the Women's Safety Project.

Bay Area

KVMR benefit Dance Palace, 5th St at B St, Point Reyes Station; (415) 663-1075, 7pm, \$10. Tea Leaf Green, Chrome Johnson, and others play at this henefit for the radio station.

Continued on page 84



(KUSF'S BEATSAUCE) 70'S FILNK DJ 'S GEORGE (BPD)

& KEVIN (BULLETPROOF) **REGGAE SUNDAZE** DJ RAS DAVID I

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MON **GRATEFUL DEAD JAMS** DJ OARK STAR DAN 3

AFRICA-ASIA-ARABIA 3 D.I CHFR I SARRAH



1025 COLUMBIA AT CHESTINIT SAN FRANCISCO (415) 474-0365

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FRI., SAT. & SUN., FEB. 16, 17 & 18 DOORS 8 / SHOW 9 • \$18 ADV. / \$20 DOOR

SUPER DIAMOND

(2/16) TOM JONESING (2/17) BOOMSHANKA (2/18) DIVALICIOUS

MON. FEB. 19 . DOORS 7 / SHOW 8 . \$18 LOS AMIGOS

INVISIBLES

FRI. & SAT. , FEB. 23 & 24 DOORS 8 / SHOW 9 • \$18 ADV. / \$20 DOOR

SUPERBOOT

(2/23) **NIALL** (2/24) THE NEW MORTY SHOW

TUES, FEB. 27 • DOORS 7 / SHOW 8 \$20 ADVANCE / \$25 DOOR SAN FRANCISCO MARDI GRAS BALL

ZIGABOO MODELISTE

BRASS MONKEY BRASS BAND DJ MOTION POTION

SAT. MARCH 3 • DOORS 7:30 / 5HOW 8:30 • \$13 NORSE POP FESTIVAL HAVE

SUPERCHUNK SPOON ACTIONSLACKS

SUN. MARCH 4 . DOORS 7 / SHOW 8 . \$15 NOISE POP FESTIVAL HIM

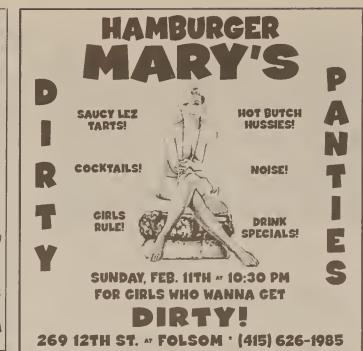
BLONDE REDHEAD

WED. MARCH 7 • DOORS 7 / SHOW 8 \$13 ADV. / \$15 DOOR • 19 & UP



MON. MARCH 19 • DOORS 7 / SHOW 8 \$14 ADV. / \$15 DOOR • 14 & UP MOGWAI

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'Behind the Screen: Making **Motion Pictures and Television'**

Feb. 10-May 13, Exploratorium

ave you ever hit the power button on your TV set, spotted the Teletubbies bouncing around, and wondered, "What the hell's going on? How did they get there? And how do they make those images appear in Tinky Winky's stomach?" The Exploratorium attempts to answer these questions and more in the exhibition "Behind the Screen: Making Motion Pictures and Television." Borrowed from the collection of the American Museum of Moving Images, "Behind the Screen" explores the whys, whats, and hows of art in the age of mechanical reproduction. Interactive exhibits teach visitors about early moviemaking, camera work and editing, sound, special effects, and the process of getting images onto the screen Museumgoers can put their own voice into the mouth of Babe the pig, screw around with the sound effects in Terminator 2, discover the workings of a television control room, and create their own video animations. Tons of cool artifacts are on display, including early optical viewers (ever locked into a Phenakistoscope?), vintage cameras and film equipment, the Yoda puppet from the Empire Strikes Back, the Chewbacca costume from Star Wars, and the first movies by Etienne-Jules Marey. The Exploratorium will host film series and demonstrations throughout the exhibition. Tues., Thurs.-Sun., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Wed., 10 a.m.-9 p.m., 3601 Lyon, S.F. \$2.50-\$9 (free first Wed.). (415) 563-7337. (Debbie Berne)



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To register or for more information, call 415.575.6150 or visit us online at www.ciis.edu

Events

Authors

Lalo Alcaraz Modern Times, 888 Valencia; 282-9246. 7:30pm, free. 7:30pm, free. The author and cartoonist gives a slide show presentation on Latino U.S.A. — A Cartoon History. Da Chen A Clean Well-Lighted Place for Books, 601 Van Ness; 441-6670. 7:30pm, free. The author reads from the memoir Colors of

Virginia Valian UC San Francisco, Nursing building, room 217, 505 Parnassus; 476-5222. Noon, free. The author discusses Why So Slow? The Advancement of Women

Bay Area

Warren Christopher Book Passage, 51 Tamal Vista, Corte Madera; (415) 927-0960. 9am, free. The former Secretary of State discusses Chance of a Lifetime: A Memoir.

Isaturday 10

Around town

'Brandon Teena Archives' Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts, 1519 Mission; 554-0402. 8pm, \$5-10. Scholar and critic Judith Halberstam explores the life, murder, and cultural impact of the late Teena through videotapes and readings from various sources.

'Getting into Voiceover' Thick House, 1695 18th St; 776-8273. 10am, free. The Voice Factory, a casting company that helps people get work in voiceovers for various forms of media, holds a seminar.

Tibetan New Year's celebration Asian Art Museum, Gruhn Court, 75 Hagiwara Tea Garden Drive, Golden Gate Park; 379-8879. Noon-3pm, free with museum admission. See 8 Days a Week, page 62.

Benefits

'Raise Your Voice for Choice' Mint Karaoke Lounge, 1942 Market; (510) 923-0739. 4-7pm, \$5. Bring your best karaoke routines to this annual fundraiser for ACCESS Pro-Choice Information and Referral Hotline, which helps California women obtain reproductive health services.

Semi-formal porn benefit Red Jack Saloon, 131 Bay; (415) 989-0700. 8pm, donation. Purchase toys, autographs from adult Web mistresses, and other unique items during this benefit for the Make-A-Wish Foundation, which grants the wishes of children suffering from terminal illnesses.

'Tibetan Life through the Eyes of a Child' San Fruncisco Buddhist Center, 37 Bartlett; 792-5683. 7-9:30pm, \$5. A gallery showing of 150 drawings made by Tibetan children is shown during this benefit for the TCV school, a learning facility in Ladakh, northern India, that houses thousands of Tibetan refugees

Bay Area

Martin Sheen St. Joseph the Worker Church, 1640 Addison, Berk; (510) 843-2244. 7:30pm, \$20. The actor discusses his role on The West Wing with Oakland Tribune journalist Peggy Stinnett in this benefit for San Carlos Foundation and its volunteers in Chiapas, Havana, and other regions.

Wine, food, and art event Metro Lighting, 2121 San Pablo, Berk; (510) 841-7248. 8pm, \$35 (reservations by Fri/9). Live jazz and classical music complement a gourmet din-ner catered by leading restaurants and wineries in this benefit for the Walden Cen-ter and School, which plan to use the pro-ceeds to expand their financial aid program and facilities.

sunday 11

Around town

Celebration for local Grammy nominees War Memorial Veterans Building, Green Room, 401 Van Ness; 749-0779. 6pm, \$35-45. The San Francisco chapter of the Recording Academy honors local musicians who have been nominated for Grammy Awards this year. Michael Tilson Thomas, Johnny Otis, and the Villa Sinfonia Foundation receive special awards for their unique contributions to the music industry.

Benefits

Benefit photo exhibition and talk for Atghan Refugees Fort Mason Center, Firehouse building, Marina at Laguna; 820-1592. 7pm, free. Nobel Peace Prize-winning organiza-tion Doctors Without Borders-Medicins Sans Frontières (MSF) hosts this fundraiser for its current work in Afghanistan. Guests include The Perfect Storm author Sebastian Junger, photojournalist Teun Voeten, and

others.

'Rhythm Relief' Galia, 2565 Mission; 970-9777. 9pm, \$5-20. DIs Mind Motion, Jahyzer, Corazon, Coop D'Ville, I-Cue, Olga T., Boriqua One, Mr. E, and Papa Joe spin a mix of dancehall, hip-hop, house, and salsa during this party and benefit for the local Red Cross and its efforts to help the victims of the recent earthquake in El Salvador.

mondav 12

Around town

KQED media salon KOED Broadcast Center, 2601 Mariposa: 553-2390. 7pm, free. KQED 88.5 FM's Keven Guillory hosts a panel dis-cussion on pertinent issues in the black community and why those topics are not covered in the mainstream media.

Support group for families of leukemia patients University of San Francisco, Medical Sciences building, room S 168, 513
Parnassus; 625-1129. 6-7:30pm, free. The local chapter of the Leukemia and Lymbons Society spropers this group for phoma Society sponsors this group for families of patients with leukemia, Hodgkin's disease, lymphoma, and

Authors

Margie Lapanja Solar Light Books, 2068 Union; 567-6082. 7:30pm, free. The author discusses Food Men Love.

Edmund White Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness; 392-4400. 8pm, \$17. The novelist and biographer, who recently edited Loss Within Loss: Artists in the Age of AIDS, discusses his life and work.

tuesday 13

Around town

'Borders on the Bayou' Borders Books and Music, 400 Post; 399-1690. Noon, free. This celebration of Mardi Gras and Louisiana culture features a musical performance by the Zydeco Flames as well as free Cajun

'Insurance Issues for Artists' California Lawyers for the Arts, 1212 Broadway, Oakl; (510) 444-6351. 7pm, \$5-15. A representative from the organization addresses contractual obligations, loss of property, and

'Compassionate Friends' Presbyterian Church, 4101 Park, Oakl; (510) 530-5311. 7pm, free. This nonprofit group meets on the second Tuesday of each month to offer support to bereaved parents.

Authors

Barnaby Conrad III and Mark Stock Borders Books and Music, 400 Post; 399-1633. 6:30pm, free. The painter and his biographer discuss Mark Stock: Paintings.

attractions/kid stuff

Calitornia Academy of Sciences Golden Gate Park; 750-7145. Wed-Tues, 10am-5pm. \$2-8.50 (free first Wed). The academy includes the Steinhart Aquarium, the Morrison Plan-etarium, and the Natural History Museum; current exhibits include "Venoms: Striking Beauties," and "At Home in Vanuatu: Tradition in the West Pacific." Wed: Master drummer Onye Onjemaechi Onye leads an "African Village Celebration," 11:30am and 1:30pm. Sat: ASWAT performs Arabic classical and contemporary songs, 1pm. Tues: Biochemical professor David Deamer lec-

Forms of Life," 7:30pm. \$3.

Exploratorium 3601 Lyon; 563-7337. Wed, 10am-9pm; Thurs-Tues, 10am-5pm. \$2,50-9 (free first Wed). The museum features (free first wea). The museum features hands-on exhibits relating to art, science, and human perception. A new exhibit, "Behind the Screen: Making Motion Pictures and Television," opens. See Critic's Choice. Randail Museum 199 Museum Way; 554-9600. Tues-Fri, 10am-5pm. \$6-7. This muse-bit has been supported by the second services of the second services of the second services. um has exhibits and activities for kids. Exhibits include "Trash Bash," an exhibit that teaches how to conserve natural resources with illustrations and graphics. "Essentially an Estuary: Our Beloved Bay" ends on Sat/10. Sat: "Saturdays are Special" continues with "Wacky Groovy Bag Hat," 1pm-4pm; circus performer Derique presents "African American Circus Arts," 1pm. \$4-6; Ane Carla Rovetta gives a workshop titled "Making Mud into Art: Earth into Chalks and Paint," 1-4pm. \$20, reservations required.
'Rumpelstiltskin' Fort Mason Center, Build-"Rumpeistniskin" Fort Mason Center, pinaling C, room 300; 346-5550. Sat, 1pin, Sun, 1 and 3:30pin. \$5-8. The Young Performers
Theatre use live actors and puppets to present this classic Gothic tale of a kidnapping. San Francisco Maritime Park Fisherman's

Wharf at Hyde Street Pier, Hyde at Jefferson; 556-3002. Daily, 10am-5pm. \$2-5. In the nation's only "floating" park, historical sailing ships are berthed at the pier for visitors to explore. An African-American historic photo exhibit runs through Wed/28. Sat: A slide program is held on "African Americans in the Liberty Ship Program," 3-3:30pm; the Living History Players recreate "A Day in the Life 1901," The state of the control of the program, and the control of the control o Life: 1901," 10am-4pm.
San Francisco Zoo Shout at 45th Ave; 753-

7080. Daily, 10am-5pm. \$3-11. Check out the meerkat and prairie dog exhibit.

Saturday Art Programs at the Legion Legion of Honor, Lincoln Park, 100 34th Ave; 750-3658. Sat, 2-3:30pni. \$5-8 (under 12 free). "Doing and Viewing Art" discusses "Decorative Glass"; "Big Kids/Little Kids" discusses European Eurniture

Strybing Arboretum and Botanical Gardens Golden Gate Park, Nmth Ave at Lincoln; 661-1316. Mon-Fri, Sam-4:30pm; Sat-Sun and holidays, 10am-5pm. Free. The arboretum and gardens are located on 75 acres and boast a collection of 7,500 plants from around the world.

Zeum 221 Fourth St; 777-2800. Sat-Sun, Hant-Spin. \$5-7. The model arts and technology center features activities for kids and teenagers 8 to 18. Exhibits include "Making Music," and "Get Crafty."

Bay Area

Bay Model Visitor Center 2100 Bridgeway, Sausalito; (415) 332-3871. Tues-Sat, 9ani-4pm Free. This two-acre replica of the San Francisco Bay and Delta features exhibits on the area's wildlife habitats, estuary, tides, and currents. Camron-Stanford House 1428 Lakeside, Oakl; (510) 444-1876. Guided tours: Wed, 11-4pm, Sun, 1-5pm, and by appointment. \$1-4. This historic house museum, the last Victorian on Lake Merritt, boasts five re-

Chabot Space and Science Center 10000 Skyline, Oakl; (510) 336-7300. Tues-Sat, 10am-5pm; Sun, noon-5pm. \$5.50-8. This state-of-the-art science and technology facility houses an observatory, planetarium, and exhibits in a natural park setting. The "Robotics" series features "Peanut Butter and Jelly Robot" on Saturday, and "Robotic Arm Docking" on Sunday.

Children's Fairyland USA 699 Bellevue, Oakl; (510) 452-2259. Fri-Sun, 10am-4pm. \$5. This 3-D storybook theme park features rides and entertainment for kids. Fri-Sun: A puppet show, "Goldilocks and the Three Bears," is held, 11am, 2 and 4pm. Muriel Johnson Oakland Public Library, various locations; (510) 238-3134. Wed, 10:30am, Tues, 10:30ain and 7pm. Free. Call for more information. The "abayomi" storyteller shares African and African American songs and stories in celebration of Black History

Kids Meet the World' Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo, Berk; (510) 525-5099, Sun, 11:30ani-1pm, \$1. Through Mar 11. This dance class for children ages 8-15 is taught by instructors and musicians from around the Bay Area. This week's lesson features American

folk dancing with Erik Hoffman. Lawrence Hall of Science Centennial Drive off Grizzly Peak Blvd, UC Berkeley, Berk; (510) 642-5132. Wed-Tues, 10am-5pm. \$3-7. The public science center features all types of exhibits, films, and activities for adults or exhibits, tilms, and activities for adults and children, including an exhibit about the eye and the brain, "Vision," and the new di-nosaur "crime scene" exhibit, "T. Rex on Trial." Sat: The Dimensions Dance Theatre give a presentation, 12:30pm; learn about different animals' hearts in "Valentine Heartthrob Day," 10-10:50am, 11:10am noon, \$8-22. Sun: Yolanda Rhodes performs African and African American stories, 1:30 and 2:30pm.

Museum of Children's Art 560 Second St,

Oakl; (510) 465-8770. Tues-Sat, 10am-5pm; Sun, Noon-5pm. Free. This museum features children's art exhibits, art classes, work shops, and other resources for kids, including a new exhibit showcasing children's ok illustrators."Then and Now.

Oakland Museum of California 1000 Oak Oakl; 1-888-OAK-MUSE. Thes-Thurs, Sat, 10am-5pm; Fri, 10am-9pm; Sun, 10om-5pm 10an-5pn; Fr., 10an-5pn; Sun, 10an-5pn.
\$4-6 (free second Sun). Current exhibits include "Fired by Ideals: Arequipa Pottery"
and "Elegant Fantasy: The Jewelry of Arline
Fisch." Thurs-Sat: A three-day conference is
held on "Outgrowing California: Where is
the Boom Taking Us?," call for times. \$15-40.

everv week

Chinese music lessons Chinese Culture Center, 750 Kearney; 986-1822. Sun, 10am-110on, 1:30-3:30pm. \$15. Multi-instrumentalist Hong Wang leads these ongoing lessons in traditional Chinese music for beginners. Figure drawing session SPEC's, 12 Sarovans 391-3191. Stat, 1pm. \$12.50. This workshop sets live models of different sizes and sexes in a professional setting for artists of all skill

'Improve Your Public Speaking Skills' Parsons Brnickerhoff, 303 Second St, Ste 700N; 923-3257. Wed, 5:30pm. Free. Bechtel Toastmasters offer weekly workshops on public

'Introduction to Buddhist Meditation' Old St. Mary's Church, Paulist Center Bookstore, room 5, 660 California; 585-9161. Mon, 12:30-1:15pm. Donation. Buddhist nun Kelsang Dragpa teaches this ongoing drop-in class on philosophy and meditation.

Lyric 123-127 Collingwood, 1-800-246-PRIDE. Various ongoing events; call for times and prices. This center holds many events for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youths 23 and younger.

Mission trail mural walk Meets at Cafe

Venice, 3325 24th St; 285-2287. Sat, 11am. \$2-5. View more than 50 murals in this weekly walking tour sponsored by the Precita Eyes Mural Arts Center. Opera workshops Jon Sims Center for the

Performing Arts, 1519 Mission; 554-0402. Thurs, 2-5pm, 6-9pm, Fri, 6-9pm, Sat, 10am-1pm, 2-5pm Free, reservations required. Visiting composer and librettist Carla Lucero conducts a series of workshops in various vocal disciplines; call for

Precita Eyes' Mission mural walks Precita Eyes Mural Arts Center, 2981 24th Street; 285-2287. Sat-Sun, 1:30pm. \$2-10. Tour over 70 murals in the Mission during this six-

Quicktricks bridge club Metropolitan Com-munity Clurch, 150 Eureka; 621-4582. Tues, 7pm. \$5, second time free. This weekly bridge club is open to players of all skill levels; pari-

rest are provided.

'SF Games' Cafe Commons, 3161 Mission;
679-3678. Fri, 7-10pm. Free. Everyone is invited to play games, including hearts, Scrabble, and dominoes — or you can bring in games — in this weekly group.

'Shakespeare-E-Oke' Argus Lounge, 3187 "Shakespeare-E-UKE" Argus Lounge, 3107
Mission; 824-1447. Mon, 9:30pm. Free. Join in a group reading of the Bard's oeuvre.

"Shattered Hopes in Palestine: Which Way Forward for Arabs and Jews?" Freedom So cialist Party, 1908 Mission; 864-1278. Wed, 6:30pm. Free. Through Wed/28. Local activists get together for a three-week reading and discussion group focusing on the current crisis.

art

Art listings are compiled by Sarah Han. Because of space limitations, new art shows are listed the week they open (thereafter, shows are listed on a rotating basis), and we cannot list café exhibits. For information on how to submit listings to this section, see 8 Days a Week. Reviews are by Lindsey Westhrook and Megan Wilson.

museums

Ansel Adams Center for Photography 655 Mission; 495-7000. Daily, 11am-5pm (first Thurs, 11am-8pm). \$2-5. "Beyond Boundrains; Contemporary Photography in California." Photographs by 64 artists highlighting the center's relocation to San Francisco. Through March 25.

Calitornia Palace of the Legion of Honor Lincolin Park (near 34th Ave at Clement); 863-3330. Tues-Sun, 9:30am-5pm, \$7, \$5 seniors, \$4 for 12 to 17, free for 11 and under (free second Wed). Permanent exhibitions include a survey of art from the Renaissance to the modern era. "The Figure in 20th-Century Artists' Books from the Reva and David Logan Collection." Through Sun/11. "The Triumph of Prudence and the Triumph of Fortitude." A display of tapestries from the 16th century. Feb 10-ongoing. Cartoon Art Museum 814 Mission (at Fourth

Cartoon Art Museum 814 Mission (at Fourth St); (415) CAR-TOON. Tues-Fri, 11an-5pn; Sat, 10am-5pn; Sin, 1-5pn; \$5, \$3 students and seniors, \$2 children. "Even More Stranger than You." The works of Brian Biggs, Lloyd Dangle, Jason Jagel, Isabel Samaras, Chris Ware, and Steven Weissman. Through Feb 25. "Selections from the Permanent Collection." Ongoing.

Museo Italo Americano Fort Mason Center, Bildo C. Maring at Langua; 673-2200. Wed.

Bldg C, Marina at Laginia; 673-2200. Wed-Sun, noon-5pii (first Wed, 1100n-7pii). \$3, \$2 students and seniors; free for 11 and under and on first Wed. "Glass and Design." Anna Venini curates this exhibit featuring 60 glass pieces from the Venini collection. Through

Pacitic Heritage Museum 608 Commerical; 399-1124. Tues-Sat, 10am-4pm. free. "Half a Century of Chinese Paintings by Au-Ho-Nien." A display of works by the Chinese calligrapher, poet, and painter. Feb 9, 2001-

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art 151 Third St; 357-4000. Fri-Tires, Ham-6pm; Thurs, Ham-9pm. \$9, \$6 seniors, \$5 students, 13 and under and members free (free first Tues; half-price Thurs, 6-9pm). "Hiroshi Sugimoto: The Architecture Series." Thirteen photographs of 20th-century architec-ture from around the world. Through March 4. "Selections from the Permanent Collection of Architecture and Design." Work by modern architects and designers. Through March 4."2000 SECA Art Award: Rachael Neubauer and Kathryn Van Dyke. An exhibit honoring the winners of the bi-ennial art award given by the Society for the Encouragement of Contemporary Arts. Through June 12

San Francisco Performing Arts Library and Museum 401 Van Ness, Fourth ff; 255-4800. Tues, Thurs-Sat, 11am-5pm; Wed 11am-7pm. free. "Perpetual Motives: John Adams, Composer." A multimedia exhibit dedicated to the work of the American new music composer, including posters, programs, reviews, photos, and other memorabilia. Through April 17.

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts 701 Mission. 978-ARTS, Tues-Wed and Sat-Sun, 11am-

6pm; Thurs-Fri, 11am-8pm. \$6, \$3 semors, 6pin; Thurs-Fri, Ham-Spin. 36, 3.3 seniors, students, and youths (free first Thurs, 5-8pin). "Try This On!" Five shows exploring social identity: "Pierre et Gilles," "The Skateboard Project," "Paintings from the Greenheads Series," "German Indians," and "Cameron Jamie: Backyard Wrestling and Other Projects." Feb 10-May 6. See 8 Days a Week,

Bay Area

Museum of Anthropology 103 Kroeber Hall #3712, UC Berkeley; (510) 643-1193. Wed-Sun, 10au-4:30pm. "Sites Along the Nile: Sun, 10ant-4:30pm. Sites Along the Nie: Rescuing Ancient Egypt." Exhibit includes nearly 600 objects, including jewelry, pot-tery, and sculpture. "Yoruba Divination: Se-lections from the Collections of William and Berta Bascom." An exhibit focusing on the aims and techniques of Ifa divination. All exhibits through June 30.

Oakland Museum of California 1000 Oak, Oaki; (510) 238-2200. Wed-Sat, 10am-5pn (Through Tues/23, also Tues; first Fri, Fri/19-Sat/20, Tues/23-Wed/24, 10am-9pm); Stat, naon-5pm (Sun/21, 10am-9pm). \$6, \$4 se-mors and students. "Elegant Fantasy." An exhibition of the jewelry of Arline Fisch.
Through April 22. "California Species: Biological Art and Illustration." Works that

focus on detailing native California species

uC Berkeley Art Museum 2625 Bancroft, Berk; (510) 642-0808. Wed, Fri-Sun, 11am-5pm; Thurs, 11am-9pm. \$6, \$4 seniors and ouths. "The Mule Train: A Journey of Hope Remembered." Twenty-four photographic panels and murals commemoraling the 30th anniversary of the Southern Chris-tian Leadership Conference's Poor People's Campaign. Through March 26.

galleries

Opening

Alliance Française 1345 Bush; 775-7755. Mon-Thurs, 9am-9pm; Fr1, 9am-7pm; Sat, 9am-1pm. Paintings hy François Fouquet-Dubois (reception Thurs/8, 6-8pm). Feb 8-

Crucible Steel 2050 Bryant; 648-7562. Daily, 10am-10pm. "Somebody's Been in My House," works by five Bay Area artists on the subject of the complexity of the human condition (reception Thurs/8, 6-9pm). Feb 8-Feb 28. "Corpus Optics," photographs and

Continued on page 86

The Last Poets

commemorating the martyrdom of El Haji Malik El-Shabazz (Malcolm X)

> Wed., February 21 2:00 pm McKenna Theatre, SFSU 19th at Holloway Avenues \$10 students / \$15 general

> > Info: 415-338-2444 Tickets: 415-338-2467









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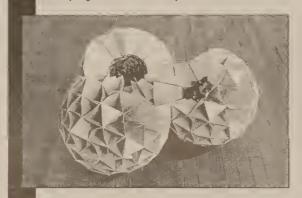
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calendar museums & galleries

Mise-en-Scène: New L.A. Sculpture

Through March 10, Logan Galleries, California College of Arts and Crafts

ise-en-Scène: New L.A. Sculpture, a fun, lighthearted show featuring works by six emerging Los Angeles artists, ise-en-Scene: New E.A. Sculpture, a ton, and teases viewers with its playful irony and surprisingly low-tech sensibility. Its title refers to a uncauted and matter teases viewers with its playful irony and surprisingly low-tech sensibility. Its title refers to a uncauted and matter teases viewers with a creative and the influences on these young artists, this was not my initial impression. After my teases viewers with its playful irony and surprisingly low-tech sensibility. Its title refers to a theatrical and cinefirst walk-through, I thought instead that I had entered a time warp into the '70s and had come upon the creative shop or laboratory of a group of brilliant kids. I was reminded of the cultural icons from my youth and the decade's emphasis on craft. Jeff Ono's work could be a homage to Buckminster Fuller, who, among other things, created the geodesic dome and coined the term "Spaceship Earth." Using common materials such as straws and paper towels, both (everybody i know can be found here) and Map Ref./Seeing Other People/Unknown are polyhedral designs that easily might have been the early architectural models for New Age structures for better living. Liz Craft's large-scale



sculpture Lazy Daze is a hybrid of '70s pop composed of three separate works made from wood, metal, and enamel paint. The largest piece resembles a cross between an abacus and a giant candy necklace of blues and purples that spells out "Lazy Daze." My favorite of the three is the very cute and happy half-Pac-Man, half-mouse (though it could be a rabbit) sculpture made of wood that stands about three feet high. Atop a four-foot-high pedestal, Torbjorn Vejvi's yellow turtleneck collar sits alone, begging viewers to come closer and take a peek inside. The image is both humorous and alluring, not unlike the overall spirit of this show. Mon., Wed.-Sat., 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Tues., 11 a.m.-9 p.m., 1111 Eighth St., S.F. (415) 551-9210. (Megan Wilson)

Galleries

mixed-media works by Bill Daniel, Victoria Mara Heilweil, and Isaac Immanuel.

Gallery at Intersection 446 Valencia; 626-2787. Wed-Sat, 12-5pm. "(Look): What is the Mission? 2001," photographs by San Francisco artists tom and john (reception Wed/7, 6-9pm). Feb 7-March 17.

Live Art Gallery 151 Potrero; 695-0119. Wed-Sat, Ham-6pm and by appt. "The Black Paintings: A failure of rational thought," new work by Tom Fowler (reception Sat/10,

work by 10m Fower (reception sav 10, 6pm-12am). Feb 10-March 1.

Pena del Sur 2870A 22nd St; 550-1101. Fri-Sat, 8pm-midnight. "Colombia, Youth, Love and Revolution," color photos hy Pablo Serrano. Fri/9, 8p.m. Quotidian 760 Market, Ste 252; 788-0445.

Tues-Fri, 10:30am-5:30pm; Sat, 11am-5pm "Blade, bone, muscle and membrane," color photographs by Sharon Margaret Wickham (reception Thurs/8, 5-7pm). Feb 8-March 17. S.F. Art Institute Walter and McBean

Galleries, 800 Chestuut; 771-7020. Mon-Sat, Nam-6pm. "Telematic Connections: The Virtual Emhrace," works using telecommunication and computing technologies (reception Wed/7, 5:30-7:30pm). Feb 8-March

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art Rental Gallery Fort Mason, Bldg A, Marina at Laguna; 441-4777. Tues-Sat, 11:30am-5:30pm. Sculptures by Terry Kreiter, William Ware-

ham, and Ann Weher (reception Wed/7, 5:30-7:30pm). Feb 7-March 2.

Andrea Schwartz 333 Bryant; 495-2090.

Mon-Fri, 9an-5pm. Mixed media and pastel works by Gwen Manfrin (reception Wed/7, 5:30-7:30pm). Feb 7-March 23.

Southern Exposure 401 Alabama; 863-2141. Thes-Sat, 11am-5pm. "Spring to Autumn Period," mixed media work by Stanley Chan and Christopher Duncan; "No regrets," works on fabric by Tucker Schwarz; "Via," installation by Anna Von Mertens; "Irresistable Terror of Loveliness," installation by Megan Wilson (reception Fri/9, 6-8pm). Feb 9-March 10.

Student Center Art Gallery Cesar Chavez Student Union, SFSU, 1650 Holloway; 338-2580. Mon-Wed, 10am-6pm; Thurs-Fri, 10am-3pm. "Illustrious Conveyance," group photography exhibition (reception Wed/7, 5-7pm). Feb 7-March 7.

3A Garage Architecture Gallery 27 South Park; 543-3347. Tues-Fri, 11am-5:30pm; Sat, 11am-5pm. "Jones, Partners: Architecture," recent works and projects by the Southern Californian design office (reception Thurs/8, 6-8pm). Feb 8-March 17.

Bay Area

Bary Ar ead Berkeley Art Center 1275 Walnut, Berk; (510) 644-6893. Wed-Sun, noan-5pm. "Water from Your Spring," paintings by Selena Engelhart (reception Sun/11, 2-4pm). Sun/11-5at/17. Kala Art Institute 1060 Heinz, Berk; (510) 549-2977. Tues-Fri, noon-5pm and by appointment. "Contemporary Photogravure arise by various of the progravure arise by various of the selection of the s togravure," photogravure prints by various artists (receptions Thurs/8, 6-8pm). Feb 8-March 30.

Ongoing

Ampersand International Arts 1001 Tennessee; 285-0170. Thurs-Fri, 10am-5pm. "Enigmatized," two solo exhibits with a focus on the representation of emotions in art. Through Fri/9.

Aquarius Records 1055 Valencia; 647-2272. Mon-Wed, 10am-9pm; Thurs-Sun, 10am-10pm. "Jeremiah Maddock: Selected Paintings and Drawings," an exhibit of works in watercolor, gouache, acrylics, pen, and

pencil. Through April 22.

ArtHaus 1053 Bush, Ste 2; 922-8219. Call for appt. "Revelations," new works by various artists. Through March 31. Eleonore Austerer 540 Sutter: 986-2244.

Mon-Sat, 10am-6pm. Bronze sculptures by Felipe Castañeda. Ongoing.

Base 720 York, no. 102; 401-9025. Tues, Fri-Sat, 11am-4pm; Wed-Thurs, 11am-9pm. "Serious Fun: A Two-Person Art Exhibition," works by Jennifer Steffey and Derik Van Beers. Through Feb 24.

John Berggruen 228 Grant; 781-4629. Mon-Fri, 9:30am-5:30pm; Sat, 10:30am-5pm. "For Caroline, 1989," works hy Brice Marden. Through March 3.

Braunstein/Quay 430 Clementma; 278-9850. Tues-Sat, 11am-5:30pm. New work by Tom Bolles. Through Feb 24.

Campbell-Thiebaud 645 Chestnut; 441-8680. Tues-Fri, 11am-5pm; Sat, noon-4pm. Recent paintings by Paul Stempen. Through Sat/10 Canvas Cafe Gallery 1200 9th Ave; 504-0070. Mon-Wed, Ham-7pm; Thurs-Fri, Ham-9pm; Sat-Sun, 10am-9pm. Recent works by Anna Conti, Torri Lehman, Cynthia Hurtubis, Carin Rehbinder, and Ellen Singletary.

Catharine Clark 49 Geary; 399-1439. Tues-Fri, 10:30am-5:30pm; Sat, 11am-5:30pm.
"New Gods," works by Don Ed Hardy; "Bed of Roses," works by George Herms. Both exhibits through Sat/10.

Chinese Culture Center 750 Kearny, Third fl; 986-1822. Tues-Sun, 10an-4pm. "Bruce Lee: A Retrospective." Through Sun/18.

Joseph Chowning Gallery 1717 17th St; 626-

7496. Call for hours. Recent paintings by Eduardo Carrillo. Through March 1.

Grown Point Press 20 Hawthorne; 974-6273.

Tues-Sat, 10am-6pm. An exhibit of John Cage's notes, maps, and scores. Through Feb 24.

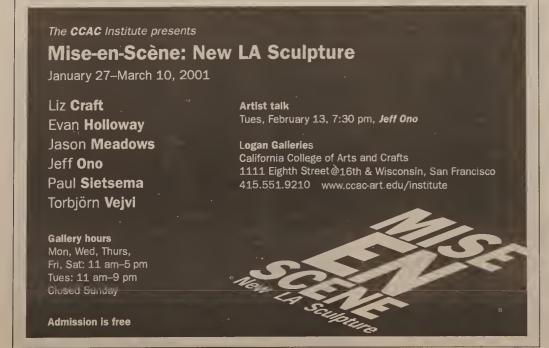
848 Community Space 848 Divisadero; 701-1619. Call for hours. "Muse: The Art of Women Tattooists," two- and three-dimensional works by S. P. Francisco and three-dimensional works by S. P. Francisco sional works by San Francisco women tattoo artists. Through Sun/11.

Fraenkel 49 Geary, 981-2661. Tues-Fri, 10:30am-5:30pm; Sat, 11am-5pm. Photogra-phy by Adam Fuss. Through Feb 24.

Gallery Sanchez at Noe Valley Ministry 1021 Sanchez; 822-9581. Mon-Sat, 9am-5pm. "Windows to Inner and Outer Nature," oil paintings and watercolors by Sofia Carmi and Brent Bushnell (reception Sun/11, 3:30

5:30pm). Through Feb 27. **Gallery 16** *1616 16th St*; *626-7495. Mon-Fri*, 9am-5pm. Works by Ben Polsky and Holli Schorno. Through Feh 28.

Brian Gross Fine Art 49 Geary; 788-1050. Tues-Fri, 10:30am-5:30pm; Sat, 11am-5pm "Mirrors," works by Gary Lang. Through



Haines 49 Geary; 397-8114. Tues-Sat, 10:30am-5:30m (first Thurs until 7:30pm). "Imagiro in Bronze," an installation by Yoshitomo Saito. Through Feb 24. "Seven Heavens," paintings by Darren Waterston. Waterston spaintings are redolent with sensual pleasure and delightful abundance. Orientalism has clearly informed Waterston's work; his paintings represent the Westerner's impression of the Far East that began in the 17th century: pagodas, pigtails, dragons, and mysterious women. However, there is more to his work than that. Waterston specializes in subtle and surprising juxtaposition of styles that create a unique reality filled with paradox. Birds, flowers, and swarms of in-sects are meticulously painted against horizonless fields of color interrupted by black silhouettes of marshlands and pagodas, while nebulous webs drip and drape throughout. The world of Darren Waterston is exotic and strange, a never-never land where anything can and will happen. Through Feb 24. (Wilson)

Hnough Feb 24. (Wilson)
Hosfelt 430 Clementina; 495-5454. Tues-Sat,
Ham-5:30pm. "First Contact," paintings by
John Andrews; "Drawings," new drawings by
Wes Mills; "Star Cluster Drawings," ink drawings by Russell Crotty. All exhibits

'Inhabiting the Lotscape' Along China Basin Blvd, south of the intersection with Mission Rock Blvd; 841-7757. 24 hours. Marisa Jahn, site-specific installation of resin photo-text panels. Through July 31.

Jock McOonald Film Studio 1417 15th St. 282-6423. Call for hours. "Snap! Shots,"

202-0423. Can for hours. Shap: Shots, photo surrealistic painting on velvet by Laura Hazlett. Ongoing.

Robert Koch 49 Geary; 421-0122. Tues-Sat, 10:30am-5:30pm. New works by Gabor Kerekes and Tihamér Gyarmathy. Through

Limn Gallery 292 Townsend; 977-1300. Tues-Paintings by Linda Day and René Norman. Through Feb 24. Linc Real Art 1 Otis; 503-1981. Thurs-Sat,

noon-5pm (or call for appointment). Drawings and paintings by Tim Evans. Through

Lugan Galleries California College of Arts and Crafts, 1111 8th St; 551-9210. Mon, Wed-Sat, 11am-5pm; Tues, 11am-5pm. "Mise en scène: New L.A. Sculpture." See Critic's Choice. Lugage Store 1007 Market; 255-5971. Wed-Sat, noon-5pm. "The Wayward Museum" is a delightful and magical installation of indi-

vidual and collaborative works by Carolyn R. Cooley, Erin Forrest, and David Cunningham. Carolyn Cooley's sepia-toned drawings and paintings of birds, cows, and mice (to name a few subjects) flowered with text have been hung close together on a water-stained wall that for some reason brings to mind Charlotte Perkins Gilman's short story "The Yellow Wallpaper." The centerpiece drawing features a loosely sketched donkey with a sign strung above it that reads, "Slowpokes Welcome Here." Directly across the room, the space is sparser and the mood quieter. Erin Forrest's small charcoal gray and ochre drawings of knots on wood are placed be-tween two text pieces: one reading, "tomor-row I will go," the other, "tomorrow I will stay." Both statements are repeated over and over, creating a sense of hope that either could happen. Through Sat/17. (Wilson)

Meridian Gallery 545 Sutter; 398-7229. Tues-Sat, 11am-5:30pm. "Chinese Paper

Ephemera: Collected and Transformed." Anna Wolf's travels through China introduced her to traditional Chinese paper art. She was surprised to learn that in many cases these artworks were actually intended to be burned as part of their ritual use. The idea inspired her to use the pliable medium of paper as a starting point for works of her own. Some of the most remarkable materia als she collected in China were not even "in-tentional" works of art: several old newspapers on which a secluded monk calligrapher had handwritten 300 famous Tang dynasty poems. With a Xerox machine, scissors, and glue, Wolf incorporated them into several of her own works in Tang Poem Panel. Her works are partly based on her memories of China, such as the incense sticks she saw poking out of oranges wherever she went, and partly rooted in more metaphysical ideas, such as the dichotomies of yin and yang. Through Sat/10. (Westbrook) Meyerovich 251 Post, Fourth fl; 421-7171. Mon-Fri, 9:30am-6pm; Sat, 10am-5:30pm.

Sculptures by Guy Dill and monotypes by Matt Phillips. Through Sat/10. Modernism 685 Market; 541-0461. Tues-Sat,

10am-5:30pm. New paintings and works by Mark Stock. Through Feb 24.

New Langton Arts 1246 Folsom; 626-5416. Wed-Sat, noon-5pni. "Stranger than You," six illustrators take a comedic look at human interaction. Through Sat/10.

Scott Nichols 49 Geary, Fourth fl; 788-4641. Tues-Sat, 11am-5pm. Black-and-white photography by Rod Dresser. Through Feb 24.

ODC Theater Gallery 3153 17th St; 626-6745. Thurs, 3-5pm; Sat, 3-6pm. Recent works by John Jacobsen. Through Sat/17. Place Pigalle 520 Hayes; 552-2671. Sun-Wed, 4pm-malight; Thurs-Sat, 4pm-2am. "Mind Explosion of Dr. Funk-o-tron," abstract intings by Jasiri. Through March 6

Plaza Gallery Bank of America Center, 555 California; (510) 547-5455 or

suzyločke@earthlink.net. Mon-Fri, 8am-5:30pm. "Adam Shaw: Awash in Color," an exhibit of the artist's abstract paintings. Through March 9.

Pond 214 Valencia; 437-9151. Wed-Sat, 1-7pm; also by appointment. "Solid Nano-Circuit City State," visual and audio work by Rubber O Cement. Through Feb 26.

Reflections Gallery 589 Howard; 896-5958.
Thes-Fri, 10am-noon and 1-6pn; Sat, noon5pin. "SOMAsexy," glamour and pinup art
by Bill Lemon, Mike Massee, Craig Scoffone, Barbara Traub, and Bernadette and Ron Olson. Through Fri/16.

San Francisco Center for the Book 300 De Haro; 565-0545. Mon-Fri, noon-5pm. "Book Arts 2001: A Student Odyssey," Cathy Miranker curates this exhibition of the works by students at the San Francisco Center for

the Book. Through April 27.
San Francisco Public Library 100 Larkin; San Francisco Public Library 100 Larkin; 557-4400. Mon, 10am-6pm; Tues-Thurs, 9am-8pm; Fri, noon-6pm; Sat, 10am-6pm; Sun, noon-5pm. "Living Colours Exhibit 2001: A Collection of Oil Paintings by Rhonel Roberts." Through Feb 26.

San Francisco Women Artīsts Gallery 370 Hayes; 552-SFWA. Tues-Sat, 11am-6pm; Thurs, 11am-8pm; second and Third Sun, 1-4:30pm. "Purely Physical," an all media exhibit exploring the human body and erotica (reception Thurs/8, 5:30-7:30pm). Through

Shapiro 760 Market, Ste 248; 398-6655. Tues-Fri, 10:30am-5:30pm; Sat, 10:30am-5pm. Photographs by Henri Cartier-Bresson. Through Feb 24.

Marcel Sitcoske 251 Post; 434-4804. Mon-Sat, 10am-6pm. "Hydro," works by various artists; curated by Erin Parish. Through

600 Townsend 600 Townsend; (510) 236-PRSG. Mon-Fri, 9am-6pm. "Natural Selec-tions," sculptures by several artists. Through

381g 381 Guerrero; 255-1821. Fri-Sun, noon-6pm. New works by Dalek. He calls them monkeys, but the creatures that populate

Thru Feb 18 Marga Gomez, Vicki Lawrence & Rita Moreno

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THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY

'A Contemporary Cabinet of Curiosities'

Through March 3, Oliver Art Center, California College of Arts and Crafts

hat do human skulls, meteorites, and miniature paintings have in common? If you'd been alive in the 17th century, you might've seen them all in a *Wunderkammer* — the ancestor of our modern museum — which brought together all kinds of relics and curiosities under one roof. It might seem like an old-fashioned idea, but not to Bay Area collectors Vicki and Kent Logan, who have compiled 14 different works from their vast art collection into a "contemporary cabinet of curiosities." Michael Joo's Assisted is one of the first pieces you see when you walk in. Joo's life-size model of a dog with a cut-away chest and a metal pacemaker next to its heart resembles an anatomy-book illustration, but it also looks like a real-life animal with a horrific, painful wound. Like many other artists in the show, Joo plays with the supposedly contradictory ideas of natural and mechanical, reveal and conceal, science and art. So does Roxy Paine, with her mechanically vibrating rectangle of fake sod, and Mat Collishaw, with his gut-wrenching 8-by-12-foot close-up photograph of a bullet hole in a human head. At first, Collishaw's picture seems scientific, a lesson in ballistics or cranial anatomy. But the longer we look, the more we realize that we aren't learning much by doing so. It isn't obvious whether the hole is an entry or an exit wound, and the opening isn't large enough to show what's inside the skull, but the image certainly does a good job of provoking our morbid curiosity. The appeal of the Wunderkammer was that it allowed the viewer to hang in limbo just like this, halfway



between analysis and awe. And like the Logans' contemporary version, it was open to multiple interpretations, artists, and media — a conversation piece that spoke in the scientific and critical language of its day. Mon.-Tues., Thurs.-Sat., 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Wed., 11 a.m.-9 p.m., 5212 Broadway, Oakl. (415) 551-9210. (Lindsey Westbrook)



HUMBOR DEDRUGMENTES

Thur-Sat, Feb 22 - Mar 10, Sun, Mar 11, 8pm, \$17 ODC Theater, 3153 17th Street, San Francisco

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community RUMBa Party

Sun, Mar 4, 8pm, ODC Theater, 3153 17th Street, \$10

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For further information about Ban Rarra's residency activities, classes and workshops, please call 415-820-3200 x 300.



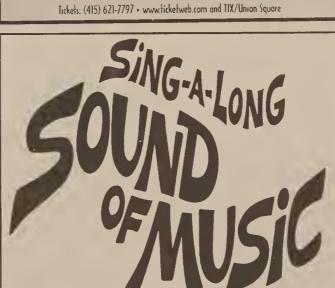
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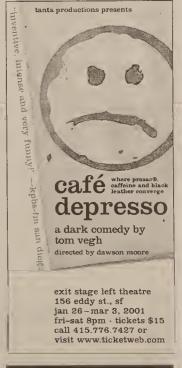
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Ongoing

Dalek's paintings looks more like chip-munks or gerbils. Their clean, smooth out-lines make them appear to have jumped di-rectly off of the comic pages onto the canvas, although there is certainly no comic-strip simplicity to the imaginary world Dalek paints behind them. Strange allu-sions to violence are everywhere. The mon-keys wear helmets and bandages, and their bodies are full of holes. Strangest of all are the 1950s-style A-bombs floating around everywhere. Underneath all of this, Dalek has scrawled layers of words and numbers, creating the effect of a wall on a well-trafficked urban street that has been painttrafficked urban street that has been painted and repainted with advertisements, graffiti, and street art. Perhaps it's a critique of consumerism, war, or some other evil of modern society that's not quite, so easy to name. Peering out with a single goofy eye, Dalek's monkeys dare us to take a guess. Through Sun/11. (Westbrook) UC Berkeley Extension 55 Laguna; (650) 696-1180. Call for gallery hours. "Alcatraz: Seen and Unseen," black-and-white photography by Corrie McCluskey. Through

critic's

University of San Francisco Thacher University of San Francisco Inacher Gallery, 2130 Fulton; 393-8003. Mon-Fri, noon-5:30pm. "Pencil and Paper," drawings by Samuel Fleming Lewis. Through Feb 25. Roy Vinson 2146 Third St; 431-9261. Call for appointment. Seventy-two oil paintings by Roy Vinson. Ongoing.

Vorpal 393 Grove; 397-9200. Tues-Sat,

11am-6pm. "2001 an Art Odyssey," new

paintings, sculptures, and works on paper. Through Sat/10.

paper. Through Sat/10.
Stephen Wirtz Gallery 49 Geary, Bankers
Investment Building: 433-6879. Call for
hours. "Material Handling," new paintings by Deborah Oropallo. Through Feb
24. See "Harmful If Swallowed," page 52. *

Bay Area

Artisans 78 East Blithedale, Mill Valley; (415) 388-2044. Tues-Sat, Ham-6pm; Sun, noon-5pm. "Nature Up Close," works by Nihat lyriboz (slide show

Sat/10, 6pm). Through March 1. California College of Arts and Crafts Oliver Art Center, 5212 Broadway, Oakl; (415) 551-9210. Mon-Sat, Ham-5pm; Wed, Ham-9pm. "A Contemporary Cabinet of Curiosities." See Critic's Choice.

Creative Growth Art Center 355 24th St, Oakl; (510) 836-2340. Mon-Fri, noon-Oaks, (\$10) 836-2340. Mon-Fri, noon-5:30pm. King Louis and the Queen of Hearts," drawings and sculptures by Louis Estape; "Mask: 2001," prints by Emmanuel C. Montoya, Cathy Perillo, and other in-studio artists. Both exhibits through March 2.

National Institute for Art and Disabilities 551 23rd St, Richmond; (510) 620-0290. Mon-Fri, 10am-3pm. "We Have a Dream," works honoring African American achievements (reception Wed/7, 5-7pm). Through April 13.

Oakland Asian Cultural Center 388 Ninth

St, Ste 290, Oakl; (510) 208-6080. Tues-Fri, 10am-7pm; Sat, 11am-3pm. Costumes and photographs of the Chinese Opera. Through Thurs/15.

Pacific Art League of Palo Alto 668 Ramona, Palo Alto; (650) 321-3891. Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm; Sat, 10am-4pm. "Close Up: Recent Works," paintings by Janice Hidemi Wong (reception Sat/10, 2-4pm). Through Feb 28. "Red Hot," a collection of nudes in all media (reception Thurs/8,

of nudes in all media (reception 1 nurs/s, 6-9pm). Through March 2.

Photolab 2235 Fifth St, Berk; (510) 644-1400. Mon-Fri, 8:30am-6:30pm; Sat, 9am-3pm. "Unequal Funding: Photographs of Children in Schools That Get Less," black-and-white prints by Chris Pilaro (reception Fri/9, 6-8pm). Through

The Red Door 4001 San Leandro, #33, Oakl; (510) 261-4517. Call for hours. Paintings by Julia Shirar, Jake Hout, and Paintings by Julia Sintiar, Jake Floot, and Steven Barich. Through Sat/10.

21 Grand 21 Grand, Oakl; (510) 444-7263. Thurs, noon-8pm; Fri-Sun, noon-6pm.
"Draw Me a Thought," paintings and drawings by Salane (reception Thurs/8, 7-10pm). Through March 4.

'Casual Friday' at the San Francisco Ballet

Fri/9. War Memorial Opera House

t's not exactly a cheap date, but it's a good deal: \$39 for drinks, nibbles, and a show. It's what the San Francisco Ballet offers this Friday as part of its Casual Friday series (future shows are March 2 and April 20). This is how it stacks up: 6 p.m., hors d'oeuvres and wine in the mezzanine of the Opera House; 7 p.m., gorgeous former SFB ballerina Evelyn Cisneros hosts a "Meet the Artist" interview inside the theater, offering a behindthe-scenes look at the company; 8 p.m., the main event. The show includes Sea Pictures, a one-year-old ballet, painted with a romantic brush, about seafarers and their lovers; Black Cake, a sure hit from Holland that



is an at-times truly hilarious look at party life (with see-through costumes on the guys — drunks have never looked so good); and Helgi Tomasson's New York City Ballet commission Prism, a genteel but easily digestible piece set to Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 1. In keeping with the "casual" theme, there's no need to dress up for this night at the ballet. 301 Van Ness, S.F. \$39. (415) 865-2000. (Rita Felciano)

stage

Stage listings are compiled by Sarah Han. Performance times may change; call venues to confirm. Reviewers are Robert Avila, Rita Felciano, and Brad Rosenstein. Dance com-mentator is Sima Belmar. See 8 Days a Week for information on how to submit items to the listings.

theater

Opening

La Ronde Studio 210, 3435 Cesar Chavez; 641-4963. \$10-20. Opens Fri/9, 8pm. Runs Fri-Sat, 8pm, Sun, 2pm. Through March 4. Goat Island presents a production of Carl R. Mueller's translation of Arthur Schnitzler's infamous play.

Rachel and Charlie Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa; 621-7978. \$18 (previews \$10, Feb 15 and 22, pay what you can). Previews Wed/7, 8pm. Opens Thurs/8, 8pm. Runs Thurs-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 7pm. Through Feb 25. Michael Brown directs his play about race, history, political morality, and aging in the face of

today's complex world.

Stop Kiss Brava Theater Center, 2789 24th St; 392-4400. \$18-30 (previews \$12, opening night \$50). Previews Wed/7-Fri/9, 8pm. Opens Sat/10, 8pm. Runs Wed-Sat, 8pm. Through March 11. Loy Arcenas directs a play by Diana Son about two women in their 20s who realize they are falling in love. Waiting to Be Invited Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, 620 Sutter; 474-8800. \$22-26. Previews Wed/7-Thurs/8, 8pm. Opens Fri/9. Runs Thurs-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 4pm. Through March 4. S.M. Shaphard-Massat's celebrated play, set in 1961, follows four black women who test the newly ruled Supreme Court antisegregation laws in a "whites only" es-

Bay Area

Nightingale LaVal's Subterranean Theater, 1834 Euclid, Berk; (510) 558-1381. \$8-14 (preview free). Previews Thurs/8, 8pm. Opens Fri/9, 8pm. Runs Fri-Sat, 8pm (Feb 24, March 3, 5pm show replaces 8pm show); Sun, 5pm. Through March 4. In Central Works Theater Ensemble new play, writer-director Gary Graves presents a modern-day retelling of the Greek myth of Philomela, Procne, and Tereus.

Ongoing

Café Depresso: Where Prozac, Caffeine and Black Leather Converge Exit Theater, 156 Eddy; 776-7427. \$15. Fri-Sat, 8pin. Through March 3. Tom Vegh's dark comedy follows the various members of a depressionthe various members of a depression-therapy group, a motley crew of San Fran-ciscans ranging from a lesbian photographer with A1DS to a Hungarian engineer. One narrative strand is concerned with an actual murder case in San Diego, but none of the play's disparate stories come to much, and the interrelationships remain undeveloped. Vegh's main interest is the characters, but despite a series of self-revelatory arias, not much substance actually gets revealed. At the preview performance I saw, Samuel Sheng had fun in multiple roles, doing par-ticularly bright work as an abusive therapist, and Stephen Pawley turned in the most accomplished performance, a funny turn as a travel agent desperate for romance. Director Dawson Moore throws a whole mess of the-atrical styles into the mix, but other than some flashes of San Francisco wit, this java's pretty thin. (Rosenstein)

Don't Make Me Look Too Psychotic Bannam Place Theater, 50A Bannam; 986-4607. \$17. Fri-Sat, 8pm. Through April 7. Violently unhealthy relationships are the driving force behind Bruce Pachtman's hilarious solo show, reopening Feb. 2 for a 10-week revival engagement. Pachtman developed this auto-biographical piece after dating a particularly incendiary woman. Bruce and Gloria have a lot in common, like drinking problems and intimacy issues. *Psychotic* is gut-bustingly

Continued on page 90





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Theater

funny, which is no small feat considering the seriousness of the material. Pachtman's characterizations are perfect, and he knows when to stop talking about himself and move the story along. Plus, it's a great story. And that makes all the difference. (Joshua Medsker) Fiddler on the Roof Golden Gate Theatre, I Golden Gate; 551-2000. \$30-75. Theos-Fri, 8pm (also Wed, 2pm); Sat-Sun, 2pm (also Sun, 8pm). Through March 4. Carole Shorenstein Hays and Scott Nederlander

present the popular musical.

Glengarry Glen Ross Geary Theater, 415 Geary, 749-2228. \$15-61. Wed-Sat, 8pm (also Sat, 2pm); Sun, 2pm. Extended through Sun/II. Seventeen years after its premiere, David Mamet's play feels like an undeniable classic. ACT bites into this much revived work and finds it as fresh as ever. Glengarry is first and foremost an actor's field day, and director Les Waters has assembled a firstrate cast, getting wonderful work from Rod Gnapp as the endlessly excoriated office manager Williamson, James Carpenter as the ultimate real estate shark's mark Lingk, and Marco Barricelli in top form as the smooth operator Roma. Tony Amendola is touching as the aging, fading Levene, although he misses some of the character's though he misses some of the characters bite. Nearly everyone runs into some shaky moments in rendering Mamet's precise verbal music, the two standout exceptions being John Apicella (Moss) and Matt Gottlieb (Aaronow), whose first-act restaurant scene is Mametian perfection. Waters deserves credit for firmly trusting the play's serves credit for firmly trusting the play's language and construction, and although there are some missed moments, the evening generally flies. (Rosenstein) Harold's Death II Teatro 450, 449 Powell; 433-1172. \$15-20. Fri/9-Sat/10, 8pm. Working Women Festival 2001 presents Kate Moira Ryan's play about a girl's discovery of her identity, gender, and sexuality in the most unusual of families.

Howie the Rookie Magic Theatre, Fort Mason Center, Bldg D; 441-8822. \$8-30. Wed-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 2:30pm. Through March 4. See "Mousey," page 50. I Think I Like Girls Thick House, 1695 18th St;

401-8081. \$12-20. Thurs-Mon, 8pm. Through Feb 26. The Encore Theatre Company presents Leigh Fondakowski's play that explores the trials and triumphs of growing up gay in

Josephine the Mouse Singer SomArts Theater, 934 Brannan; (510) 845-2687. \$12-20. Thurs-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 7pm. Through Feb 25 See "Mousey," page 50.

Love, Loathing and Lunacy Shelton Theater, 533 Sntter; 775-3237. \$14. Thurs-Sat, 8pm. Through Feb 24. Dwayne Wolff directs the plays of Christopher Durang and David lves in this performance of one-act sketches.

◆ Mamma Mia! Orpheum Theatre, 1192
Market; 512-7770. \$33-75. Tues-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 7:30pm. Through Sat/17. 1 was amazed at how many of ABBA's 22 songs leatured in this musical were completely ingrained in my consciousness. Catherine Johnson's book, centered on a wedding on a Greek is-land, is an amusing trifle but often quite clever in working in these familiar songs Given the high camp factor, what's surprising is just how effective these tunes are the atrically, and under Phyllida Lloyd's playful direction the evening has a joyous, megawatt energy more typical of old-time musical comedy. (Rosenstein)

Comedy. (Rosenstein)
Mission Magic Mystery Tour Eureka Theater,
215 Jackson; 392-4400. \$24-30. Wcd/7Sat/10, 8pm; Sun/11, 3pm. In this multicultural menudo of a city, the battle between old and new, rich and poor, mainstream and minority continues nowhere more dramatically than in the Mission. Who better to come to theatrical terms with such a complex world than our own Mission homeys Culture Clash? The *Mission Magic Mystery Tour* provides snapshots of residents ranging from political activists and transsexual prostitutes to low-riding vatos and dying theater artists. Herbert Siguenza, Ric Salinas, and

Richard Montoya are tremendously gifted performers, but their often curiously undramatic material here gives them few opportunities to engage their substantial chops. The piece seems almost frantic to serve as witness, documenting a parade of Mission notables via either name-dropping or incarna-tion. But in taking on their home turf, the Clash seem to have lost a lot of their comic objectivity, and the choppy results only fit-fully capture the spirit of this haunted, com-pelling place. (Rosenstein)

Personal Instrument New Conservatory The-atre Center, 25 Van Ness; 861-8972. \$17-20. Wed-Sat, 8pm. Through Sat/17. This solo play from Boston's Theater Offensive interweaves the stories of three gay characters all connected by an electric guitar. Performer David Hanbury variously incarnates a gruff rock guitarist whose beloved "Number One" is a stringed and fretted sexual organ; a teenager who worships at the altar of Steve Vai; and a onetime rocking yuppie who has lost his spark. The script, by Hanbury and Juliann Rubijono, hits some flat notes, but the charsizzling live guitar-playing cut to the erotic, ecstatic heart of rock 'n' roll while shattering some queer stereotypes along the way. Hanbury's electric energy befits his subject, and Rubijono's direction incorporates some compelling multimedia imagery. It's a rare piece of theater that can harness the awesome power of rock and keep it humanscaled and controlled, and despite its limita

scaled and controlled, and despite its initiations, Personal Instrument is a unique and satisfying evening. (Rosenstein)

Rhinoceros Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St; 861-5079. \$15-20. Wed/7-Sat/10, 8pm. There's a sickness afoot: rhinoceritis. And it's become a regular epidemic. Symptoms include an uncontrollable penchant for Razor scooters and cell phones. As a public health alert, Theatre Rhinoceros offers a boisterous staging of lonesco's alternately hilarious and horrifying tale of conformity run rampant. In a timely stroke of selfreflection, director Colman Domingo sets

the action in the Mission District of the present day, Theatre Rhino's backyard and the place where San Francisco's own metamorphosis has been most apparent and heated. The faithful rendering of Ionesco's text is remarkably apt, while unconventional casting (several of the male and female roles are reversed, including that of the main character, Berenger, winningly played by Alexis Lezin) releases some dramatic efrects that amuse and intrigue while never upstaging the play's themes. Lezin and P.A. Cooley head a bodacious cast of budding perissodactyls. (Avila)

Snakebit New Conservatory Theatre Center, 25 Van Ness; 861-8972. \$15-35. Wed-Sat, 8pm. Through March 24. David Marshall Grant's comedy explores the boundaries of love and friendship when a woman fears that she and her daughter may have contracted AIDS from her husband's best friend.

Tallulah Curran Theatre, 445 Geary; 5512000. \$33-57. Wed/7-Sat/10, 8pm (also Wed, 2pm); Sun/11, 2pm. Writer Sandra Ryan
Heyward tackles the legendary Tallulah Bankhead in her one-person play, which at-tempts to paint a portrait of the wit and the fury, the star and the survivor, the compas-sionate friend and the lonely alcoholic. All of sionate friend and the lonely alcoholic those facets make an appearance, but there's little to unite them or make them matter beyond the megawatt presence of star Kathleen Turner. While preparing to host a 1948 fundraising party for President Truman, Tal-lulah dishes with us "dahlings" about sex, drugs, booze, stardom, et al. Voluptuous and commanding, Turner chews up and spits out this flimsy script like a veteran gladiator on amateur night, clearly endeavoring to find the soul of this woman beyond the bitch-goddess caricature. But Heyward's script is content to plod its predictable mon odrama way devoid of depth, surprise, or dramatic justification. Bankhead was a complex original who deserves better, and Turner is a powerhouse actor who is capable of so much more than this manipulative vehi-cle allows. (Rosenstein)

The Vagina Monologues Alcazar Theater, 650 Geary; 433-9500. \$30-55. Tues-Thurs, 8pm; Fri-Sat, 8:30pm (also Sat, 5pm); Sun, 3 and 7pm. Through March 4. Marga Gomez, Vickt Lawrence, and Rita Moreno perform in Eve Ensler's play.

Bay Area

Fall Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison, Berk; (510) 647-2949. \$15.99-51. Tues, Thurs-Sat, 8pm (also Thurs and Sat, 2pm) Wed and Sun, 7pm (also Sun, 2pm). Through March 11. Bridget Carpenter is hardly the first writer to see dancing as a metaphor for relationships, but in her new play she has great fun with partnering in all its varia-tions. Lydia (Megan Austin Oberle), a very unwilling 14-year-old, gets dragged by her parents to swing camp. For all her objections, Lydia's pubescent hormones are doing a lindy hop, and her lonely heart is yearning for a partner. The question of who will monopolize Lydia's dance card is the play's main engine, and we care about the answer main engine, and we care about the answer because Carpenter renders Lydia so acutely. For all her smartass sarcasm, we get swept along by Lydia's yearnings and frailties, and Oberle gives an inspired, completely persua-sive performance. Carpenter's craft unfortu-nately doesn't extend to the adult characters, and the play uneasily embraces its more stylized moments. However, the gifted director Lisa Peterson maintains a tone of bubbly sincerity, and she and choreographer Peter Pucci often nail the play's emotional and lit

The Last Night of Ballyhoo Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro, Mountain View; (650) 903-6565. \$20-38. Wed/7-Sat/10, 8pm; Sun/11, 2pm. In 1939 Hitler is on the march, but for the upper-middle-class Jews of At-lanta the biggest concerns are the premiere of *Gone with the Wind* and Ballyhoo, an annual Jews-only ball. Playwright Alfred Uhry (Driving Miss Daisy) again returns to his roots in amazingly conventional fashion: the

play, which seems to have been written in 1939, is an amiable family comedy with dark



calendar

undertones that could be vintage Kaufman and Hart. Uhry raises potent themes of as-similationist self-hatred but skates over them lightly: the real stakes here are whether two girls will find dates for the big party. The fine ensemble does excellent work, particularly Sheila O'Neill Ellis as an acerbic mother and David Silberman as a genial uncle, and Amy Gonzalez's uneven direction keeps things bopping. Uhry is an admirable craftsperson, and the results are mildly diverting, but somewhere underneath all of this old-fashioned charm is a much tougher and more meaningful play yearning to come out. (Rosenstein)

Tough! Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant, Berk; (510) 843-4822. \$30-35. Wed-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 2pm (also Feb 11, Feb 18, and Feb 25, 7pm). Through March 4. On a bleak urban playground three 19-year-olds battle it out when Tina (Amanda Duarte) reveals to her boyfriend, Bobby (Danny Wolohan), that she is pregnant. Adding to the pressure of Tina's demanding ferocity is her friend Jill (Maria Candelaria), who is only too happy to kick Bobby's ass on her friend's behalf. Bobby, who was planning on a breakup, now finds who was planning on a breakup, now finds himself smacked from all sides with grown-up responsibility. George F. Walker's astute and often funny play is anything but an after-school special: we find our sympathies constantly shifting as each character unveils convincing arguments, limiting frailties, or manipulative strategies that make you squirm with recognition. Unfortunately, this Aurora Theatre Company production never quite realizes the script's significant potential; neither Wolohan or Duarte nail their character's gritty lows or hilarious highs. Only Candelaria's acerbic Jill hits the ground Only Candelaria's a ceroic Jin files the ground running, although she stumbles when the script unconvincingly reveals her vulnerabilities. Director Søren Oliver's pacing remains one-note, and he only occasionally finds the physicality to illuminate Walker's battered, first warely (December). feisty world. (Rosenstein)

Who Loves You, Jimmie Orrio? Marin The ater Company, 397 Miller, Mill Valley; (415) 388-5208. \$20. Thurs-Sat, 8:15pm; Sun, 7:15pm. Through Feb 25. East Bay playwright Cheryldee Huddleston's latest follows the life and loves of a former inmate.

dance

Ballet Preljocaj Yerha Buena Center for the Arts Theater, 700 Howard; 392-4400. Thurs-Sun, 8pm (also Sun, 2pm). \$28-35. French choreographer Anjelin Preljocaj founded his company — one of Europe's most widely touring dance groups — in 1984. Ballet Preljocaj returns to the Bay Area with the evening-length Paysage après la bataille (Scene after the battle). Joseph Conrad and Marcel Duchamp share the honor of being the choreographer's muses for this piece, which explores the battle between the two sides of the creative process: instinct and reason. Whether the point will be well taken is irrelevant in the face of the stellar danc-

ing. (Belmar)
'Below Zero' Theater Artaud, 450 Florida; 621-7797. Thurs-Sun, 8pm. \$15-18. Kim Epifano, who in the past has worked with allwomen groups, has assembled a cast of eight males for this ambitious new work. It is their task to bring to life the story of Antarctica explorer Ernest Shackleton and his shipmates almost lost to pack ice. Not only do these sailors speak, sing, and dance, they also act as stagehands for Lauren Elder's versatile set. What they don't do, through no fault of their own, is convince us of something akin to an emotional truth about those lives stuck in ice. Except for a few instances opening and closing images and one in which the vulnerable body is confronted with the power of the frozen sea - Below Zero gets stuck in narrative. The self-conscious music doesn't help, and the choreconscious music doesn't neip, and the choice ography is so generic it's just about mute. It is not enough to tell us what happens; we need to see, taste, and feel it. (Felciano)

Judith Kajiwara Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa; 621-7978. Mon-Tites, 8pm (also Fri/16-Sat/17, 8pm). \$10-15. See 8 Days a Week,

'OOC/unplugged' ODC Theater, 3153 17th St; 863-9834. Wed, 6:30pm (also March 21, 6:30pm). \$15. If you haven't seen ODC/San Francisco's dancers before, the up-close-and-personal way is best. With a regular sea-

son or two at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, it's nice that the company doesn't turn Arts, it's nice that the company doesn't turn its nose up at the studio space it grew up in. ODC/Unplugged is a behind-the-scenes look at ODC/SF choreographers Brenda Way, KT Nelson, and Kimi Okada's works in progress. This month features a new piece by Way, choreographed in honor of the company's 2001 30th-anniversary season. (Belmar) San Francisco Ballet 'Casual Friday' War Meniorial Opera House, 301 Van Ness; 865-2000. Fri, 8pm (hors d'oeuvres 6pm, Meet the Artist talk 7pm). \$39. See Critic's Choice. Strong Current Oance Company Cowell Thestater, Fort Mason Center, Marina at Laguna; 441-3687. Thurs-Fri, 8pm (also Fri/16-Sat/17, 8pm). \$16-20. Kirstin E. Williams, artistic director of SCDC, presents Delicate Choice, an evening of seven works choreographed between 1998 and 2000 that dance around the existential conundrum of our freedom and responsibility to choose our paths.

'Vision Series 2001' Cowell Theater, Fort

Mason Center, Marina at Laguna; 441-3687. Sat, 8pm. \$10-15. dRepSF's executive director Donnette Heath's educationoutreach performance festival continues with performances by Chimene Pollard and Noelle Morris, Landini Dance Company, Jenice Acosta and Dancers, Highly Un-likely Studios, Element Dance Theater, Saltmarsh Dance, and Dance Repertory/San Francisco.

Bay Area

People like Me 2001: Oancing at the Crossroads' Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College, Berk; (925) 798-1300. Sun, 2pm. \$5-10. Julia Morgan Center Stati, 2pm. 35-10. Julia Morgan Center launches its Kaleidoscope Performances with World Arts West's People like Me 2001. Seven dance groups perform, including the West African dance and music troupe Ballet Jali Diabate; the Afro-Peruvian De Rompe Y Raja; tap dancer, clogger, body percussionist, and banjo player Evie Ladin; Blanche Brown's Haitian dance company Group Petit La Croix: the Afro-Cuban drum and dance group Olodum; swing dancing Rami Margon; and Haitian dancer Amara Tabor-Smith. Terrain Western Sky Studio, 2525 Eighth St, Berk; (510) 845-8604. Sat-Sun, 8pm. \$10.

Bay Area performers like to get intimate with their audiences. And the East Bay dance-performance collective Terrain is no exception. That's why the collective's members have decided to launch a Salon Series that makes space for East Bay choreographers and performance artists to share work with a small and attentive audience. For the first show of the series, Mary Armentrout, Ruth Botchan, Tara Munjee, Mary Reid, Marcy Risque, Ann Swigart, and Andrea Weber present works that include the multidisciplinary and the purest of dance. (Belmar)

<u>performance</u>

'Black Ballin' Venue 9, 252 Ninth St; 289-2000. Thurs-Sun, 8pm. \$12-15. Through Feb 2000. Thurs-sun, 8pm. \$12-15, I frough re-25. The Oakland Public Theater presents Rickerby Hind's hip-hop play about four young men who play professional sports. 'Crouching Pussy, One-Eyed Oragon' Next Stage, Gough at Bush; 704-3261. Fri-Sat, 9pm. \$10-15. Through Sat/17. The Johnny Kats perform improv and sketch comedy that is "not directed by acclaimed filmmaker

'The Delusional Comedy' Venue 9, 252 Ninth St; 289-2000. Tues, 8pm. \$6-10. Joe Hogan's show explores being a teenager in

the 21st century.

'Girls Just Wanna Have Fun' Aunt Charlie's Lounge, 133 Turk; 441-2922. Sat, 10pm and midnight. Free. Kristy Cruise hosts a drag

Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco Holding Court at the Palace' Palace of the Legion of Honor, 100 34th Ave; 861-7067. Sun, of Honor, 100 34th Ave; 861-7067. Sun, 2:30pm. \$12. Directed by Michael Carlson, the Lesbian/Gay Chorus performs selections from Handel's "Your Voices Tune," "Of Crows and Clusters," "Two Old Crows," and "With One Voice."

'Loose Knit' Phoenix II Theatre, 655 Geary, 379-3911. Fri-Sun, 8pm. \$15. Through Sat/17. Jane Barrett and Randy Sterns present Teresa Rebeck's comedy about "knit-

sent Teresa Rebeck's comedy about "knit-ting, sushi, and sex."

'There Ain't No 'U' in Lonely' Phoenix Theatre II, 655 Geary; 821-0291. Thurs-Sat, 8pm. \$8-15. Through Sat/17. In a truly strange tragicomedy, Ted Herzberg plays Dr. Zero, a self-declared Lacanian psychoanalyst who finds his patients at the Santa

Anita Racetrack.
'Transcinema' The Lah, 2948 16th St; 864-8855. Wed, 9pm. \$5-10. This event mixes cinema and performance into a "videokinet-ic body" of sounds and images. 'Undermind Railroad' Omnicircus Theatre,

550 Natoma; 701-0686. Sat, 8:30pm. \$10. Through Feb 24. Eric Kenyon directs this surreal and comedic musical about "selfimposed slavery and desperate delusion" in contemporary industrial life.

Bay Area

'The Gathering' Cubberly Auditorium, Stanford University, Stanford; (650) 725-6739. Fri, 8pm. \$5-10. Will Power stars in this hip-hop solo show about 'the physical and emotional place where black went gather to talk to places where black men gather to talk, to

'In Search of My Clitoris' Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College, Berk; (925) 798-1300. Thurs-Fri, 8pm. \$13-16 Sia Amma performs her comedic solo show about "poverty, relationships, and female circumcision."

Onye Onyemaechi Melrose Branch Library,

2805 Foothill, Oakl; (510) 238-3134. Wed, 2pm. Free. African master drummer and dancer Onyemaechi performs songs and dances from a traditional African village cel-

'Root of the Source' Alice Arts Center The ater, 1428 Alice, Oakl; (510) 433-9799. Sat, 8pm; Sun, 3pm. \$15-18. Dance with Reason presents a performance of theater, dance, and music featuring Gloria Yamato, Bridgette Young Harry, Frances McGee, and Yaa-

2 Foot Yard and Salane and Friends 21 Grand, 21 Grand, Oakl; (510) 444-7263. Sat, 8pm. \$5-10. Two separate performances by solo singer-violinist 2 Foot Yard (Carla Kihlstedt) and multi-instrumentalists Salane and friends.

comedy

Brainwash Cafe and Laundromat 1122 Fol-son; 861-3663. Thurs, 8pm; open mic with host Tony Sparks, free. Buchanan Grill 3653 Buchanan; 563-2802.

Mon, 9pm: SNAFU Improv Comedy, \$2. Cobb's Comedy Club 2801 Leavenworth; 928-4320. Wed-Thurs, Mon-Tues, 8pm: All Pro-Comedy Showcase, \$7. Fri-Sun, 8pm (also Fri-Sat, 10pm): Sue Murphy, Matt Wein-

hold, and Andrew Norelli, \$10-15.

Java Source 343 Clement; 541-5610. Tues, 9:30pm: Laffaccino Comedy Open Mike, with host Nick Leonard, free,

Luggage Store 1007 Market; 255-5971. Tues, 8pm: open mic with host Tony Sparks, \$1-3.

One World Cafe 1799 McAllister; 776-9358. Fri, 7:30pm: open mic with host Corrine Petteys, free.

Piat's 1686 Market: 541-5610. Mon. 8pm: Gay Comedy Showcase, with host Darrick Richardson and featuring Barbee Jean, Nick Leonard, Bridget Schwartz, and

Punch Line 444 Battery; 397-4337. Wed, 9pm: Punch Line Comedy Allstars, featuring Arlo Stone, Brian Malow, and Gretchen Rootes, \$8. Thurs-Sat, 9pm (also Fri-Sat, 11pm): Bob Rubin, Brian Malow, Greichen Rootes, \$8-15. Tues, 9pm: Dave Attell and Joe Klocek, \$10.

Rasselas 1534 Fillmore; 921-2051. Sat, 7pm: S.F. Comedy Beat, with comedy, improv, and

Continued on page 92





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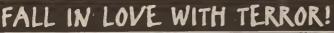


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400 Club 400 29th Ave, Oakl; (510) 261-1108. Wed, 9pm: open mic with host Tony

Jazz Performance Center 1801 Jefferson Oakl; (510) 982-0490. Sat, 8:30pm: All Pro Comedy Showcase, \$5

Mambo Mambo 1803 Webster, Oakl; (510) 302-0853. Fri, 8pm: Tony Sparks hosts, \$5.

spoken word

Open mics take place almost every night in cafés throughout the Bay Area. If you want to perform, show up about half an hour before start time to put your name on the list. A day-by-day word events and featured readers: Wednesday: Brainwash Cafe 1126 Folsom; 864-3842. Spoken Word Salon, featuring Jon Longhi and Neurohumors, Stoney Burke, and host Diamond Dave Whitaker, 8pm, free. Cody's Books 2454 Telegraph, Berk; (510) 845-7852. Readings by Geoffrey Cook, Jack Forbes, Reuben Halpern, and Alice Rogoff, 7:30pm, \$2 donation. Starry Plough 3101 Shattuck, Berk; (510) 841-2082. Poetry Slam with host Charles Ellik, 8:30pm, \$5. University of San Francisco Lone Mountain Campus, 2800 Turk; 422-6066. Readings by Wanda Coleman, 7:30pm, free. Thursday: The Bearded Lady Truckstop Cafe 485 14th St; 626-2805. Spoken word by Lynee Breedlove, Daphne Gottlies, Monica Jane Frances, Jen Millis, and Thea Hilman, 6pm, \$3-5. Black Dot Cafe 2330 International (510) 533-6629. Spoken word by Black Dot Artists Collective and open mic, 9:30pm, \$3. Café Firenze 2116 Shattuck, Berk; (510) 644 0155. Featuring Tom Odegard, with host Dale Johnson, Tentiming to Househalt, With the Service of Columbus; 362-8193. A prose reading by Lidia Yuknavitch from her new book, Liberty's Excess, 7pm, free. Dalva 3121 16th St; (925) 216-3592. Poetry Mission, featuring "The Poet Formerly Known as Mark States," followed by open mic, 7pm, free. Mambo Mambo 1803 Webster. Oakl; (510) 832-9422. Poetry Slam and open

mic hosted hy Sonia and Nisa, 8pm, free. Unitarian Center 1187 Franklin, 338-2227. Readings by Vancouver poets George Stanley and Sharon Thesen, 7:30pm, \$5 donation. La Peña Cultural Center 3105 Shattuck, Berk; (510) 849-2568, "Youth Speaks Fifth Annual Teen Poetry Semi-Finals" 7pm, \$2-6.

Friday: Cafe International 508 Haight; 552-7390. A night of readings by D. Taylor Singletary and Carter Blackwell followed by open mic, 8pm, free. Timken Lecture Hall California College of Arts and Crafts, 1111 Eighth St; 551-9278. Sesshu Foster and Michelle Murphy read, 7:30pm, \$5. Saturday: Pro Arts, 461 Ninth St, Oakl; (510) 763-9425. Uniting Voices Open Mic, featuring Maurice Graham, 7pm, free. West Oakland Branch Library Auditorium 1801 Ade-Ime, Oakl; (510) 238-7352. A showcase of works by poets, writers, and artists, 1pm, free Sunday: Berkeley Art Museum 2621 Durant; (510) 527-9753. Rhythm and Muse Poetry, (270) 527-37.53. Knyrini and Muse Poetry, 2:30pm (sign up at 2pm), free. Cody's Books 2454 Telegraph, Berk (510) 845-7852. Poetry reading by Luke Breit and Jack Hirschman, 7:30pm, \$2 donation. Paradise Lounge 1501 Folsom; 621-1911. Poetry above Paradise, featuring readings by Sharky and Dylan Berkey,

followed by open mic, 8pm, free.

Monday: Notes from Underground 2399
Van Ness; 775-7638. Celebration of the Word, hosted by Jeanne Powell and featur-ing WordWind Chorus, 7:30pm, free. Tuesday: Bird and Beckett Books 2788 Dia-mond; 586-3733. Reading by Diane Di Prima, 7:30pm, free. Black Repertory Theater 3201 Adeline, Berk; (510) 652-2120 Third Eye Theatre presents poetry, spoken word, and comedy, 8pm, donations accepted. Café Niebaum-Coppola 916 Kearny; 788-7500, ext 340. Night of the Poets, a tribute to Lew Welch, featuring Huey Lewis, 6pm, free (reservations required). Golden Gate Branch Library 5606 San Pablo; (510) Gate Branch Library 3606 3an Paulo, (37) 597-5023. Joyce Carol Thomas discusses and reads her work, 7pm, free. Mills College English Department Faculty Lounge, 5000 MacArthur; (510) 430-2236. Reading by Ammiel Alcalay, 5:30pm, free. Rockin' Java 1821 Haight; 831-8842. Open Mind Open Mic with Carvell, 8pm (sign up at 7:30pm), free.

Film listings are edited by Cheryl Eddy. Reviewers are David Fear, Dina Gachinan, Susan Gerhard, Demiis Harvey, Johnny Ray Huston, Robin Lapid, Patrick Macias, Anhoni Patel, Chuck Stephens, and Rob Taylor. See Movie Clock, page 101, for theater information.

Opening

The Bridge The Bridge is yet another movie about a stranger who brings adventure to a small town. Housewife Mma (Carole Bouquet) spends her ostensibly angst-filled days going to spends her ostensibly angst-filled days going to the movies and cycling down quaint tree-lined roads. She meets a suave rich guy (Charles Berling) while watching West Side Story and dives into a passionate affair while her husband (Gérard Depardieu) is off working on the con-struction of a bridge. To their credit, codirec-tors Depardieu and Frédéric Auburtin succeed in making a movie about a woman cheating on her man that is not a movie about guilt. Mina does not want to abandon her son or huri her husband, but when it comes down to it, family can't compete with a little lust and excitement (1:42) Lumicre. (Debbie Berne)

Hannibal See Movie Clock, page 101. (2:11) Cinema 21, Grand Lake, Jack London. Saving Silverman See "Dumb and Bummer," page 49. (1:31) Century Plaza, Colma, Emery Bay, Grand Lake.

◆Spring Forward An ex-convict (Liev) Schreiber) trying to turn his life around with a parks and recreation maintenance job partners up with a veteran municipal employee (Ned Beatty) on the verge of retirement. The fact that most of the film consists of conversations between the two men (with an occasional revolv tween the two men (with an occasional revolv-ing third party) sets it squarely within the "talk-ing pictures" genre, but to dismiss this gem as My Dinner with Andre redux would be a pun-ishable crime. Beatty and Schreiber, along with writer-director Tom Gilroy, sidestep the preten-sion and inherent theatrical motifs of two guys

Continued on page 94

'All about Eve'

Fri/9-Thurs/15, Castro Theatre

very good year for movies — 1950 — brought two lasting looks at showbiz whoredom: Billy Wilder's *Sunset* Boulevard and Joseph L. Mankiewicz's All about Eve. The latter was much the greater success then, especially when Oscars were handed out — not a big surprise, perhaps, since its portrait of the theater world as a piranha tank (with passing stab at TV for good measure) was a lot easier for the industry to stomach than Sunsefs grim laugh at Hollywood's own beached whales. Nonetheless, both (along with the weepier rise-and-fall saga A Star Is Born) have survived as templates for every toxic tinsel expose since. If Sunset is a comedy cruelly wrapped in noirish horror, Eve is a comedy Mankiewicz insists on treating as drama, even tragedy. It's difficult these days to even imagine the earnest moral indignation audiences of the time felt; "young, feminine, and helpless" little schemer Eve Harrington, a.k.a. Gertrude Schlossinsky (Anne Baxter), looks every inch the glint-eyed python circling a rabbit hutch from her first scene. (Unofficial remake Showgirls confirmed this material's gradual yet irreversible slide toward camp, especially when dancing gueen Gina Gershon, shoved down stairs so understudy Elizabeth Berkley might become a star, shrugs off any hard feelings with "How do you think / got to the front of the line?") We've gotten too cynical, and Baxter's backstabber has grown too transparent, for Eve to retain the melancholy punch its writer-director intended. Nor does the filmmaking itself seem anything more than workmanlike; like the style of several other, later Oscar magnets (George Stevens, Franklin Schaffner, the dreaded Richard Attenborough), Mankiewicz's dignified "fidelity" to text now seems simply a lack of cinematic personality or style. Yet despite all that — not to mention lockstep pacing, plus the cringe-worthy belief that Woman is just kidding herself until she's got a Man to boss her around --- All about Eve is as reliably built as a

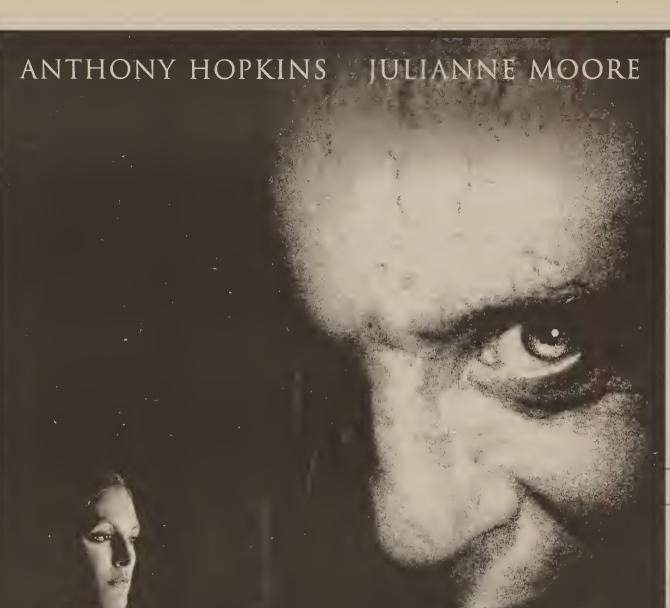


Swiss watch. Right on schedule, each tick brings its own wee blood-drawing barb, whether delivered by Bette Davis's aging grande dame of the stage (a defining role that just might have fixed her future in self-parody), George Sanders's snakier-than-thou gossip maven, or Thelma Ritter's perennially fed-up flunky. Representing ambition without talent - beyond the ability to climb career ladders horizontally - is ninth-billed Marilyn Monroe's "graduate of the Copacabana School of Dramatic Arts." (Baxter, on the other hand, seems more valedictorian of the Joan Crawford School.) Amid so much enjoyably underplayed overacting, Celeste Holm grounds the film in recognizable humanity, suggesting what Mankewicz can't: that "even" showbiz-affiliated females can be loyal to standards beyond self-interest. Opening night, author Sam Staggs (All about All about Eve) will introduce the film. See Rep Clock for show times. (Dennis Harvey)

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first runs, rep films, & movie clock

Sword and scandal

By Patrick Macias

n o on. Break out the tools and take apart any truly great period martial arts movie. Odds are you'll find a mix of Chinese history, Japanese swordplay, and spaghetti-western cool under the hood. These distinctive beat elements were masterfully molded together to make 1993's Warrior's Tragedy (Thurs/8, Four Star), a moody, brilliantly staged antirevenge tract that is beginning to look more like some kind of lost classic every day. Eternally tormented Shaw Brothers and A Better Tomorrow alumnus Ti Lung plays a brooding, dressed-in-black ace swordsman with a burn leg. He hobbles into town (think For a Few Dollars More, Mongolian style), where an aging warlord is assembling a crack team of legendary heroes to do a search-and-destroy mission on the descendants of a double-crossing clan. Ti finds love (a poke in the dark actually), makes an unlikely ally in wily fur-clad Frankie Chan (also the film's director-screenwriter-producer), and solves the riddle of his mysterious past and parentage as the bodies and revelations start stacking up. OK, so maybe there're about half a dozen characters that the film doesn't really need, and the afterthought subtitles don't make the plot mechanics perfectly clear. But more than making up for the defects are a gold mine of jaw-dropping images and events: sword duels with invisible foes, a legless man flying around on jet-propelled crutches, and an epic horse-driven-chariot chase across the desert — all paced for maximum entertainment value. In an era when John Woo was getting his first international raves for his double pistol grip and Tsui Hark was ushering in waning days of his brightly lit wire-fu, this one was tragically lost in the shuffle. Frankie Chan was last seen directing the 2000 classroom yukfest I.Q. Dudettes, while Ti Lung shot his suffering wad over his ecstasy-flipping daughter in High K. Warrior's tragedy, indeed



gabbing about life with the perfect combination of breezy grace and award-worthy chops. In this quietly brilliant and profound film the trio have created something so full of simple pleasures it almost seems subversive: in letting these actors play so naturally off each other with nary a digitized bell or whistle in sight, Spring Forward may be the most fascinating two hours of cinematic cayes dropping you'll get all year. (2:00) matic eavesdropping you'll get all year. (2:00)

The Suicide Club This dark period drama by director Rachel Samuels comes with the producer's stamp of B-movie master, Roger Corman. A revamped version of Robert Louis Stevenson's classic tale provides the story of Henry Joyce (David Morrissey), a man so devastated by the (David Morrissey), a filant so devastated by the death of his wife that he joins an exclusive group of despondent aristocrats with a shared wish to end it all. After signing away life and property to the club's fiendish president, Mr. Bourne (Jonathan Pryce), Joyce enters a secret society where a nightly game of Russian roulette determines the fate of its members. However, when the hero becomes entranced with the tragic Sara Wolvertone (Catherine Siggins), he begins to question his irrevocable decision. Set in 1899, the film's exploration of morality and mortality in the context of a changing modern world remains timely and thought-provoking in the 21st century. (1:29)
Rafael. (Sabrina Crawford)

Rafael. (Sabrina Crawford)
Tigerland Premiering on the film-festival circuit
last fall, this low-budget, Vietnam War—era
drama won surprised critical admiration for
erstwhile paragon of Hollywood decadence Joel
Schumacher (Batman and Robin) and hitherto
unknown Irish actor Colin Farrell. In the cold
light of a non-festival-glitzed day, this period piece looks a lot less striking. It's your basic Basic Training 101 Flick, aiming for a brute realism (hand-held camerawork, 16mm film blown up to 35) that's undercut by the script's composite of soldiering-is-hell clichés. Fresh-meat Army recruits being shipped straight from Louisiana to the 'Nam front lines include a whole mess of families trees there's the conscientional collection. miliar types: there's the conscientiously objecting wiseass (Farrell), our sensitive gonna-be-awriter-someday narrator (Matt Davis), the African-American guy who won't stand for cracker race-baiting (Russell Richardson), a cou-ple soft-shelled nuts bound to crack under presple soft-shelled nuls bound to crack under pres-sure (Clifton Collins Jr., Thomas Guiry), and a hard one eager to kill, kill, kill for God and Country (Shea Whigham). Tigerland's grainy, shaky-focused, faded-khaki look lends a surface realism; it eschews some movie-military clichés, like the usual soundtrack of vintage Top 40 hits. But these ascetic aesthetics can only go so far in camouflaging a script (by Ross Klavan and Michael McGruther) that feels like a connectthe-dots patchwork of elements borrowed from One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, Full Metal Jacket, Tribes, The Boys From Company C, et al. For all the film's ersatz immediacy, its dialogue screamed variations on "You dick-suckin" candy-ass mama's boys, get in that trench now!" cussage, plus "poetical" speeches — and predictable character dynamics make Tigerland seem more an imitation of (movie) life than the in-ya-face docudrama it thinks it is. (1:41) Roxie. (Harvey)

◆ Before Night Falls This is Julian Schnabel's second artist-on-artist film piece (Basquiat being the successful first), and the painter-auteur has dotted the canvas with ellipses,

auteur has dotted the canvas with ellipses, surrealisms, poetry, and enough celebrily (Johnny Depp, Sean Penn) to make you feel you've been pleasantly dosed. Spanish heartthrob Javier Bardem, as the film's beefed up, sexy version of Arenas, leads this Cuban time-trip, bringing the artist's humor and pathos to life. (1:13) Lumiere, Shattuck. (Gerhard)

**Best in Show The latest nugget of deadpan brilliance from writer-actor-director Christo-

brilliance from writer-actor-director Christopher Guest (Waiting for Guffman) is a faux behind-the-scenes dog-show documentary fol-

lowing the precompetition preparations of several contestants and their loyal companions.

such a consistent hoot. This dead-on satire is a

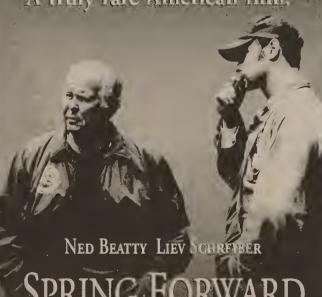
While Guest chooses an easy target in dog shows, it's the joy of watching gifted comic actors riff like jazz musicians that makes Show

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full breed above any competition. (1:30) Opera Plaza, Red Vic, Shattuck. (Fear) Billy Elliot (1:50) Opera Plaza, Shattuck.

Ongoing

Continued on page 96

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Vacaville - Brenden Vacaville 16

Vallejo - Century Cinedome

Windsor - Airport Cinema 8

NO PASSES ACCEPTED

calendar

Ongoing

Cast Away Tom Hanks and director Robert Zemeckis (Forrest Gunp) have made another uplifting paean to the banality of good. The star plays Chuck Nolan, a rush-rush Federal Express systems manager who's missing out on quality time with the people he loves. Then Chuck gets

a wake-up call: sole survivor of a plane crash, he's washed ashore on an uninhabited South Pacific isle. When he finally gets back to civi-lization, his second priority (after reuniting with his girlfriend, Kelly, played by Helen Hunt) is to *deliver* the last remaining FedEx package, a notion of 'decency' that offends be-cause it reduces the big question to another empty, nondenominational feel-good homily. (2:30) Century Plaza, Kabuki, Metreon, Orinda, onestown, UA Berkeley. (Harvey)

Chocolat A mysterious woman (Juliette Binoche) sets up a chocolate shop in a small French village, and her sweets awaken the dormant lives and libidos of the town's populace. While the cinematography gorgeously captures every rich tone and truffle, and director Lasse Hallström (The Cider House Rules) puts the

cast through their paces admirably, Chocolat's insistence on milking "oohs" and "aahs" at every predictable turn betrays a greater desire to please crowds than to make a good film. (1:56) California, Century Plaza, Grand Lake, Aetreon, Orinda, Presidio. (Fear)

Chunhyang The latest film from Im Kwon-Taek

--- Korea's best-known and most widely feted auteur --- tells the story of poet and courtesan's

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RATCATCHER c/o SF BAY GUARDIAN

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daughter Chunhyang (Lee Hyo-Jung), who prematurely "marries" (though the term "gets carnal with" more accurately captures their as sociation) a magistrate's rather high-handed son, Mongryong (Cho Seung-Woo). Left to her own devices when her lover is sent to Seoul, Chunhyang is ordered by an evil governor to submit to his sexual whims. When she refuses he orders her beaten to death. Im grounds the tale within the tradition of pansori and entale within the tradition of pansor and energy in the soaring balladeering of master vocalist Cho Sang-Hyun. If only the suppleness of the filmmaking could match the limitlessness of Cho's vocal chords. Inexpressively photographed, inefficiently edited, and "acted" by a mist of treasure dullarde and fit for which school tographet, interleting education, and acted by a pair of teenage dullards not fit for a high school drama team, *Chunhyang* isn't so much movie as gimcrack from the cultural affairs gift shop, far more curio than classic. (2:01) *Clay, Rafael*,

Cirque du Soleil: Journey of Man (:38)

Metreon Imax.

"Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon Crouching
Tiger, Hidden Dragon isn't just Ang Lee's first
star-spangled martial-arts blockbuster; it's also
the tenderest meditation on silence, sensibility, and the chasms that divide generations this in-timate chamber dramatist has ever made.

Chow Yun-fat plays Li Mu Bai, the top swords-man of the Wudan clan; his unrequited lover man of the Wudan clan; his unrequited lover and fellow warrior, Yu Shu Lien, is played by former 007 sidekick-kick-ass and global supercop Michelle Yeoh. As the film begins, the would-be couple are standing on the verge of finally getting it on when their archnemesis, Jade Fox (the great Cheng Pei-pei, King Hu's formative female action star), appears from the delegated set with a version warring animed. darkened past with a venomous sprite named Jen at her side. Governor's daughter by day, seby night, Jen (Zhang Ziyi) only seems the faith-ful ward; inwardly she yearns for a life of free-lance malfeasance and the companionship of a dreadlocked desert rascal named Lo (Chang Chen of *Happy Together*). At once postcard serene and pyrotechnically outrageous, the film is a contemplative mood piece that's filled with slam-bang popcorn, a spider inside a butterfly — and so rightfully sure of its own agility that it can stumble along a balustrade, drunk and fully blind, and somehow never miss a step. (1:59) Act I and II, Century Plaza, Emery Bay,

(159) Act I and II, Century Paza, Emery Bay, Empire, Galaxy, Kabuki, Metreon, Piedmont, Vogue. (Stephens)

CyberWorld (:48) Metreon Imax.

Diary of a Chambermaid Jeanne Moreau carries a considerable history and iconic weight,

and the refined fuck-all-ness of Luis Buñuel's 1964 Diary of a Chambermaid fits her like a Chanel basic black. As the titular chambermaid, Moreau traces another dour progresthought so." Bunuel populates the movie with fools worth watching expose themselves, chasing the very banana peel that orchestrates their fall. Through it all, Moreau is at once unconvincing and ideal — cool, disdainful, just passing through, but every bit as sure she'll leave her mark on these inferiors as Buñuel is certain they deserve it. (1:38) Fine Arts Cincma, Rafael. (Harvey)

Double Take (1:28) Colma, Emery Bay, Jack London, Metreon, 1000 Van Ness, UA Berkeley The Emperor's New Groove (1:20) Colma, Oaks,

The Family Man (2:04) 1000 Van Ness.
Finding Forrester (2:27) Cohna, Four Star, Jack
London, 1000 Van Ness, Shattuck.
Genghis Khan (1:45) Four Star.

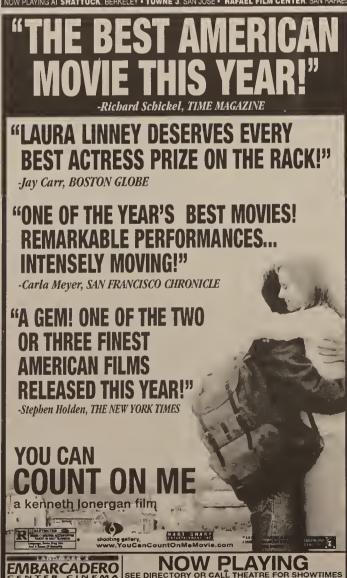
George Washington David Gordon Green's wholly original feature debut is Charles Burnett by way of Charles Schulz, a poetic look at child-hood lensed by cinematographer Tim Orr with IMAX-style extravagance. This other Other America, a deep South filled with white and black kids roaming a negativeland of garbage heaps, swimming pools, and rusted train tracks is so strangely prayerful that every frame feels like it's about to host a space landing. Naturalis-tic acting and an emotionally charged screenplay blend with horror, splendor, and trash and the mixed messages of a great filmmaker: ravishing vistas, gorgeous lighting, and a forebod-ing soundtrack. (1:30) Four Star. (Gerhard) The Gift Though Billy Bob Thornton and

Tom Epperson (who previously collaborated on One False Move) wrote their script years ago, the plot echoes a number of recent releases, in-cluding What Lies Beneath and Stir of Echoes. Psychic Annie Wilson (Cate Blanchett, striking ly believable as a single mom in pleated stretch











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february 23

LAST RESORT

Abandoned by her fiancé at the airport, a young Russian woman with child in tow – applies for asylum in England. Forced to live in a faded seaside resort, the woman finds her dreams of a better life slipping away - un'til an unusual romance gives her hope. Lyrical and deeply emotional, The Last Resort is a triumph for director Pawel Pawlikowski.

"Crackles with human sympathy. One of the year's ten best." Film Comment march 9

WHEN BRENDAN MET TRUDY

Peter McDonald (I Went Down) and Flora Montgomery make an insanely appealing and hilariously mismatched couple in this fast and fresh comedy for movie maniacs. Kieron Walsh directs from a riotously funny script by Roddy Doyle (The Snapper, The Commitments).

"Very funny, with bright performances:" Screen International

march 23

6

TOO MUCH SLEEP

When an underachieving security guard loses his gun in a scam involving a beautiful girl, he's forced to enlist the aid of his quiet little town's resident expert on the "criminal underworld." A funny, charming, and wholly original first film by David Maquiling.

"An understated gem." Village Voice

april 6

THE DAY I BECAME A WOMAN

Marziyeh Meshkini makes an extraordinary directorial debut in a film that explores what it means to be a woman in modern Iran. Alternately funny, surreal, and heartbreaking, The Day I Became a Woman was written by Mohsen Makhmalbaf, one of the masters of the new Iranian cinema.

"Essential viewing." Chicago Tribune

april 20

THE LOW DOWN

In his first feature, acclaimed video director Jamie Thraves tells the story of an intense young man torn between committing to the woman of his dreams - and doing nothing. Featuring a memorable performance by Aidan Gillen (star of the British Queer as Folk), The Low Down is a bracingly honest look at modern relationships.

"Fresh, funny, new-wavy and wistful." It's quite a delight." Time Out

may 4

EUREKA

At 3 hours and 40 minutes, this gorgeous black and white film is a transcendent story of redemption that you won't soon forget. Featuring a brilliant performance by Koji Yakusho (Shall We Dance), Eureka marks an enormous breakthrough for director Shinji Aoyama.

"Brilliant, ravishing, stunning. One of the year's ten best." LA Weekly

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Ongoing

pants) does "readin's" for the colorful characpanis) does reading for the colorida charac-ters who populate sleepy Brixton, Ga. When a local rich bitch (Katie Holmes) goes missing, spooky stuff of the unearthly variety begins to infiltrate Annie's world. Chances are you'll fig-ure out the identity of *The Gift*'s mystery villain long before any of the characters do, but the by-the-genre-handbook story line is elevated by Raimi's expert ability to command the setting chickup trucks, feathered hair, honey-dipped Southern twangs) and the atmosphere (oozing fog and Spanish moss, eerie fiddlin' on the soundtrack). (1:52) California, Kabuki, Metron, 1000 Van Ness. (Eddy)

Head over Beels Every generation has a Tah

Head over Heels Every generation has a Tab Hunter, that one handsome, wholesome, Won-derbread-bland romantic lead. Contender Freddie Prinze Jr. makes a pretty convincing case for himself in *Head over Heels*. Insecure case reer girl (Julia Roberts dead ringer Monica Potter) meets Mr. Too-Good-To-Be-True (Prinze). A misunderstanding (she thinks he's a murder-er! Whoops!) leads to shenanigans with Potter and her four gorgeous supermodel roommates (très '50s!). Potter is deft enough to pull off both the slap-schtick and the appropriate goo-goo eyes, but it's cardboard hottie Prinze's show all the way, and therein lies Head's main problem. Providing little chemistry but lots of whiny line readings and glimpses of his bare chest, the film's top attraction-manchild con-tinually stops director Mark Waters' (*The House* of Yes) brisk pacing dead in its tracks. (1:31) Century Plaza, Emery Bay, Jack London, Kabuki, Metreon, 1000 Van Ness, Shattuck. (Fear)

■The House of Mirth Terence Davies's adaptation of The House of Mirth is more cheerless than Edith Wharton's 1905 fiction. Its social satire, while often funny, anticipates tragedy from the start — in short, this is a major down-er. But there's also something grand about Davies's design that lends *Mirth* an unusual weight. Gillian Anderson plays the orphaned Lily Bart, who moves in the uppermost reaches of New York society, where it is to be expected that a marriageable one such as herself would try to finagle the best match possible, but even more that she not appear to be doing so. Davies's screenplay makes composites of a few characters to good effect and shaves the excess melodrama from Wharton's final arm-twisting of cruel fate. But his *House of Mirth* is hardly up-to-the-moment sexy and exciting; he digs so deeply into a wildly alien culture of surfaces that the film it self seems preserved in amber, a liquid in which we slowly drown right along with Lily. (2:15) Embarcadero, Shattuck. (Harvey)

The Invisible Circus Jordana Brewster stars as Phoebe, a solemn young San Franciscan who travels through Europe tracing the downward spiral of her sister, Faith (Cameron Diaz), who committed suicide in Portugal years before. Determined to solve the "mystery" of Faith's death, Phoebe visits Faith's former boyfriend, Wolf Christopher Eccleston). As Phoebe eagerly pieces together Faith's final days, Wolf finds himself cracking open a box of memories he'd rather leave undisturbed. Faith's scenes — exciting, fearless moments in an exciting, fearless life — effectively convey the character's unfor-gettable spirit; when she's on-screen, you can't look away. The rest of *The Invisible Circus* fluc-tuates in tone, and director Adam Brooks never manages to replicate in the film's present tense the electricity that races through its Diazpowered flashbacks. (1:38) Colma, Galaxy, UA Berkelev. (Eddy)

Malèna (1:44) Albany, Embarcadero.
Michael Jordan to the Max (:46) Metreon Imax. Miss Congeniality (1:50) Colma, Metreon,

Nico and Dani For a teenage homo happy pill, director-cowriter Cesc Gay's Nico and Dam (Krämpack) is a pretty good 'un. It goes through the usual motions — two cuties, one proto-mo and one probably not, get a little older/wiser after hitting some mild, non-psychologically-scarring speed bumps — with restraint and ambivalence. School pals Dani and Nico are accustomed to expunging extra energy via mutual "krámpacks" — i.e., wank-offs. But while Nico enjoys these as much as the next lad, Dani wants to experiment in areas (sucking, getting fucked) where Nico is reluctantly willing to go — but not to reciprocate. Unanticipated vulnerabilities surface in unexpected

THE BEST

places, leaving friendship at the mercy of allround weirdness. What's most likable about Nico and Dani is how relatively sturdy its protagonists are: nothing seems to rock their boats all that much, and if their sexual identity issues remain somewhat unresolved at the end, they've weathered enough to suggest a dual future that's pretty much whatever-works-for-ya, dude. (1:57) Lumiere, UC Theatre. (Harvey) O Brother, Where Art Thou? At heart, O Brother, Where Art Thou? (which the credits tell us is based upon Homer's Odyssey) is a feel-good movie — problematic, because the Coen brothers have never been noted for their feelings. Still, if one must wear (in)sincerity on one's sleeve, may the shirt always look this beautiful: O Brother is Americana Gothic, snow-globe style. The Coens put George Clooney's callow handsomeness to good use, but we can't buy this paragon of insincerity's secret longing: to be reunited with his wife (Holly Hunter, perfectly cast yet underused). Likewise, O Brother blows inspirational hot air in a thudding antiolimax that suggests that the good people of mid-1930s Mississippi will not stand for blatant racism, corruption, and injustice. Oh really? So much here is enjoyable and impressive that it seems a shame to notice how half empty the glass is in the end. But the Coens dare you not to: O Brother insists on your acknowledging faith, family, and love as fundamental truths when it's quite obvious that their representations are, uh, pretty inorganic. (1:47) Bridge, Shattuck. (Harvey)

The Pledge Actor-and-sometimes-auteur Sean Penn (*The Crossing Guard*) presents another small-town tale from the dark side, this one centering around a retired cop (Jack Nicholson) whose promise to find a child's killer slow-

PICTURE

ly builds into a consuming obsession. Penn's fascination with the rhythms of realism and the working class find an able-bodied ally here in a surprisingly subdued Nicholson. Free of the histrionics and mugging that color the patented "Jack" persona, Nicholson's man-on-the-verge performance is a near tour de force of under playing that keeps Penn's flights of existential fancy grounded. (2:04) Alexandria, Century Plaza, Emery Bay, Metreon, 1000 Van Ness, Shattuck. (Fear)

**Paulis This carefully crafted movie version of Doug Wright's play (Wright also wrote the screenplay) directed by Philip Kaufman (The Unbearable Lightness of Being, Henry and June), makes square one the Marquis de Sade (Geoffer). frey Rush) — the man, the myth, the lech — and spirals outward. Quills explores how one extraordinary person affects the lives of those who are drawn to his writings and subsequent ly become entangled in the last years of his life, when de Sade was detained in the Charenton insane asylum under the care of one Abbé de Coulmier (Joaquin Phoenix). This being de Sade's story, Kaufman takes an appropriately sadistic-meets-cheeky approach: plenty of vis-ceral flourishes, double entendre-laden dialogue, and a naughty sense of humor. (2:04) Embarcadero. (Eddy)

◆Requiem for a Dream Director Darren
Aronofsky (Pi) and Hubert Selby Jr. (author of the 1978 novel from which the film is adapted) are a perfect match. Set in a purposely vague, decrepit Coney Island epoch somewhere be-tween the Me Decade and Now, Requiem for a Dream is more of a dirge, if a dirge could St.
Vitus—dance at 200 beats per minute. Pathetic widow Sara Goldfarb (Ellen Burstyn) has no real life of her own, unless being a couch potato counts; faint hopes that only child Harry (Jared Leto) will ever fly right are dashed each time he pawns her boob tube for smack cash. Harry has a "business partner" in lifelong friend Tyrone (Marlon Wayans) and a great girlfriend in disenfranchised rich chick Marion (Jennifer Connelly). The boys are as eager to swim upstream as she is to drift downward. Setting up a heroin-dealership shop — just until they make one big score, of course — seems like a good idea until a supply shortage occurs. Meanwhile, Sara gets hooked on diet pills. This diary of an in-creasingly mad hausfrau parallels the younger trio's descent into variably delusional, panicked, exploited, and life-threatened personal hells. (1:42) Opera Plaza. (Harvey)

Save the Last Dance Onetime ballerina Sara (Julia Stiles) loses her mother in a car accident and leaves suburbia to live with her estranged father in inner-city Chicago. As the new (i.e. white) girl at a predominantly black high white) girl at a precommanity black high school, Sara befriends the sympathetic Nikki (Bianca Lawson), who introduces her to hip-hop at the local dance club; her new pal's brother, Derek (Sean Patrick Thomas), teaches her a few moves on and off the floor. Director Thomas Carter's earnest efforts to tackle all facets of interracial relations propels Last Dance to a cut above the after-school special. (1:53) Century Plaza, Emery Bay, Galaxy, Jack London, Kabuki, Metreon, UA Berkeley (Lapid) Shadow of the Vampire What if the actor cast as

Count Orlock in Nosferatu was a real vampire? Director E. Elias Merhige rounds up a formida-ble cast, including John Malkovich (as eccentric director F.W. Murnau), Willem Dafoe (as actor-bloodsucker Max Schreck), Udo Kier (as the befuddled producer), and Eddie Izzard (as Nos-feratu's leading man) to spin this tale of method, mayhem, and silent filmmaking. Shadow starts off with great promise: the mise-en-scène is exquisite, the engaging movie-within-a-movie scenes yield eerie reenactments of the 1921 original, and Dafoe cuts a menacing, lascivious figure as the pointy-eared snag-gletooth. But once Shreck starts claiming necks, Shadow's pacing and script (we now pause for morphine addiction) take a turn for the worse. (1:29) California, Cinema 21, Metreon, 1000

Van Ness, Piedmont. (Eddy)

Snatch A gargantuan diamond, stolen by phony rabbis, eventually lands in the hands of a psychotic gun dealer named Boris the Blade. The rock then becomes a pawn in a standoff between a boxing promoter, his gypsy ringer, and a bookie named Brick Top who enjoys feeding his enemies to pigs. But wait, there's more: like the squeaking dog, five-second transatlantic flights, and scenery-chewing Hollywood stars that pop up along the way. Several actors from director Guy Ritchie's similar *Lock*, Stock, and Two Smoking Barrels also appear, including brutishly cute former British footballer Vinnie Jones. Like that film, Snatch exudes a







TIME MAGAZINE • USA TODAY • ROLLING STONE

charming kind of coolness: ferocious, hyperverbal, decidedly masculine, and so overdone it's harmless. (1:43) Century Plaza, Emery Bay, Jack London, Metreon, Metro, Oaks, 1000 Van

State and Main David Mamet takes a very hoary idea — a film crew of the usual big-league egos 'n' nitwits descends upon a small town for location shooting, upending the local equilibrium as its own internal relations deteriorate — and gets wery little fresh satirical mileage from it. The moderately amusing story benefits from per-formers (the large cast includes Alec Baldwin, Sarah Jessica Parker, William H. Macy, and Philip Seymour Hoffman) who make the material seem brighter than it is, but Mamet is no natural comic writer. His humor is just condescending, occasionally obnoxious, and dependent on the black-and-white contrast between stereotyped El Lay slicksters and a postcard-perfect 1940s provincial America that really no longer exists. (1:42) Albany, Embarcadero, Pied-mont. (Harvey)

Sugar and Spice When Lincoln High's head cheerleader (Marley Shelton) has trouble mak ing ends meet after her quarterback boyfriend (James Mardsen) gets her pregnant, her perky squadmates help her rob a bank. Though there's the potential here for drawing blood on a few choice targets (the banal Barbie-and-Ken world of high school popularity, those perpetu-ally grinning cheerleaders), don't expect this watered-down *Heathers* wannabe to torch any sacred cows of suburbia. This fangless satire may walk the walk, with bitchy asides and barbed tongues, but it's less interested in taking down the status quo than making sure those nubile young things strip down to their underwear when they count their loot. (1:33) Century Plaza, Kabuki, Metreon, 1000 Van Ness, UA

Thirteen Days Despite the presence of nominal star Kevin Costner, the focus of Roger Donaldson's film about the 1962 Cuban missile crisis is on the Kennedy brothers, cabinet members, military officials, and myriad identical-looking old white guys who all duke it out to see whose strategies prevail in response to the threat of strategies prevail in response to the timetator nuclear missiles in Cuba. To the filmmaker's credit, what suspense he loses to the viewer's knowledge of how it ends is made up for with lively re-creations of the Cuban blockade, spyplane flyovers, and Adlai Stevenson's United Nations showdown with the Russians. As JFK and RFK, Bruce Greenwood and Steven Culp re-create their historical characters on their own terms — resulting in two unexpectedly ex-citing performances. (2:18) Colma, Emery Bay, Metreon, Oaks, 1000 Van Ness. (Taylor)

→ A Time for Drunken Horses Into a national cinema filled with allegorical children's stories that may have mythic layers attached but often lack that painful punch to the gut, Bahman Ghobadi throws this grenade, in which a group of parental guidance—free children fend for themselves against all the elements: war, snow, thieves, and biology. The older brother in a Kurdish family, Ayoub - who regularly hauls goods over the Iran-Iraq border at risk of death
— has taken it upon himself to feed the family
and take care of his ailing dwarf brother, who he learns needs an expensive operation. With no lack of imagination, or endurance, Ayoub hoofs his way through ambushes and toward the border with a gang of smugglers and horses so pained they have to be made drunk to join the caravan in search of money for his surgery. Ghobadi, the first Kurd to make a prominent feature about Kurds (he plays a major role in Samira Makhmalbaf's recent entry on the region, Blackboards), is breaking ground as he crosses borders. (1:20) Four Star. (Gerhard) Traffic Give Steven Soderberg's Traffic credit for trying to grapple with a huge, nonfun issue (the war on drugs) on fairly populist terms. Michael Douglas plays a judge gunning for the big time — D.C. drug czardom — and learning beltway politics the usual hard way. Meanwhile, San Diego trophy wife Catherine Zeta-Jones is shocked to discover her husband's bankroll is 100 percent FBI-seizable. Traffic is an ensemble piece, and the plot threads improve the further they get from innocent victimhood: Luis Guzman and Don Cheadle are great as DEA agents who get go-between Miguel Ferrer over a barrel and really enjoy rolling him around; Benicio del Toro is a corrupt penny-ante Mexican cop who lucks into bigger leagues of badness. The script does little more than quick-reference the war on drugs as an evergreen propagandistic decoy for governments with more important subterranean economic machines (economic race-

class segregation, military megaspending,

corporate policy-buying, environmental pillage) to keep ka-chinging away. Traffic is expansive in length, locational sprawl, and character clutter — but its blood pressure stays all too sensibly even. (2:20) Century Plaza, Coronet, Emery Bay, Empire, Grand Lake, Jack London, Metreon, 1000 Van Ness, UA Berkeley. (Harvey) Valentine A vengeful, cherub-masked killer ter-rorizes a clique of vixens in a film aimed at scaring anyone who was a superbitch back in the sixth grade. Top-billed Denise Richards ex-emplifies the beautiful-yet-excruciatinglybland cast (David Boreanaz, Marley Shelton); the plot is old-school slasher, with a refreshing lack of Scream-ish bravado: Hear a noise while you're in the shower? Wrap on a towel and investigate! Have a psycho stalker? Put on a biki ni, grab some champagne, and hop in the jacuzzi! Alone! At night! Holidays have always been good to horror films, and Valentine's seasonally-appropriate themes of dating and atsonally-appropriate themes of dating and attraction actually give the film a wee, wee bit of depth — raising the whole package an eensy knife-stab above standard splatter-by-numbers fare. (1:37) Alexandria, Century Plaza, Emery Bay, Galaxy, Jack London, Kabuki, Metreon, Stonestown, UA Berkeley. (Eddy)

The Wedding Planner Multimedia monolith lennifer Longer dins her Gucci-should toes into a

Jennifer Lopez dips her Gucci-shod toes into a lighter-than-air cake-topper of a romantic comedy (appropriately, genre patron saint Meg Ryan's Prufrock Pictures coproduces). As a perryan's Fruinck Pictures coproduces). As a per fectionist who arranges lavish ceremonies for swanky San Francisco couples, Lopez endures the agony and ecstasy of love, love, love when she falls for a hunky, mouth-breathing doctor (Matthew McConaughey) who, in the name of Whathew McConaughey) who, in the harbe of pure conflict, also happens to be a client.

Whew! Poor Jenny — will she and the man of her dreams ever get together? Will her lip gloss and French manicure remain flawless in every

scene? Will people hear her new single over the film's closing credits and run out to buy the new album? But of course they will, silly. Ain't Lopez grand? (1:40) Alexandria, Colma, Emery Bay, Metreon, Jack London, Kabuki, Shattuck, 1000 Van Ness. (Eddy) What Women Want (2:03) Jack London, 1000

◆Yi Yi If Yi Yi, which won the Best Director prize at last year's Cannes Film Festival, seems like Taiwanese director Edward Yang's most accessible film, it's because it documents that process of looking back and reassessing; it seems to be Yang's commentary on how far he's come and how he's doing so far. What is most impressive about Yi Yi is that it takes the familiar and examines it outside the conventions of movies. The film tells the story of one person's life, refracted into five different people making up a family; like a soap opera, Yi Yi feels like several different genres entwined. All of these strands help to vary the mood and provide re-lief from one another, but it's the middle-aged lief from one another, but it's the middle-aged father's struggle that holds down the center. Perhaps this is because the film is really about him, or perhaps it's because of Wu Nien-jen's performance; he's able to convey perfectly, through his face and body language alone, the feeling of a man who's more than a bit worn out by the world. (2:53) Opera Plaza, Shattuck.

◆You Can Count on Me Laura Linney plays a single mom struggling to raise her son in a small rural town, whose life spirals into chaos when her slacker brother (Mark Ruffalo) re-turns home to get his own life together and she begins sleeping with her married boss, played by Matthew Broderick at his nerdy best. Playwright Kenneth Lonergan makes his directorial debut here, and while this is hardly a flamboyant or fast-paced film, it's outstandingly well

written, with sharply nuanced performances, especially from Ruffalo, whose endearing loser has you pulling for him even as he manages to screw up every last chance he's given. (1:32) Embarcadero, Orinda, Shattuck. (Taylor)

Rep picks

◆All attout Eve See Critic's Choice. (2:18)

"Hidden Dragons: A Martial Arts Film Festival Celebrating 'Crouching Tiger' 'The Four Star's festival showcases the giang hu flicks that paved the way for Crouching Tiger, Hudden Dragon. the way for Croucining Tiger, Hudaen Dragon. This week's films include gravity-defying fanta-sy Swordsman II (Ching, 1992), starring let Li and a gender-twisting Brigitte Lin; and horse-and-sword tale Warnor's Tragedy (Chan, 1993), starring Ti Lung. See Tiger on Beat for com-mentary. Four Star. (Eddy) ❖





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CASTRO 429 Castro; 621-6120. \$4.50-7. A Streetcar Named Desire (Kazan, 1951) Wed, 1:30, 4:15, 7, 9:35. Sing-A-Long Sound of Music (Wise, 1965) Thurs, 7. Benefit for

Frameline (\$45). See 8 Days a Week, page 62. All about Eve (Mankiewicz, 1950) Fri/9-Thurs/15, 1:30, 4:30, 8. See Critic's Choice.

FINE ARTS CINEMA 2451 Shattuck, Berk; (510) 843-3699, 84-7. The Ralph Stanley Story (Smith, 2000) Wed, 7:30, 9:10; Fri, 5:35. Filmmaker Herb E. Smith in person. • Diary of a Chambermaid (Buñuel, 1964) Thurs/8-Thurs/15, 7:30 with Trees Lounge (Buscemi, 1996) Thurs/8-Thurs/15, 9:25 (also Sun, 5:35).

ISTITUTO ITALIANO OI CULTURA 425 Washington; 788-7142. \$3. "New Italian Cinema": Ecco fatto (Mullino, 2000) Tues, 6.

LA PEÑA CULTURAL CENTER 3105 Shattuck, Berk; (510) 642-8066. \$7. Abel Paz Durruti en la Revolution Español (1998) Sun, 7:30. Discussion follows film. Benefit for LaborFest.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE LIBRARY 57 Post; 393-0100. \$5. "CinemaLit": The Searchers (Ford, 1956) Fri, 6:30. Discussion precedes film.

NEW PFA THEATER 2725 Bancroft, Berk; (510) 642-1412.\$4.50-7. "Film 50: History of Cinema": The Man with a Movie Camera (Vertov, 1928) Wed, 3. "Video Art: An Evening with Antonio Muntadas," Wed. Free lecture (6:30) precedes video screenings (8). "Totò Recall": The Poor and the Noble (Mat-"Toto Recall": The Poor and the Noble (Mat toli, 1954) Fri, 7:30; Hands off Me (Zambuto, 1937) Fri, 9:25; Totò, Peppino and the Berlin Wall (Bianchi, 1962) Sat, 7; The Two Colonels (Steno, 1963) Sat, 9. "Children's Film Festival": Tsatsiki, Mum and the Policeman (Lemhagen, 1999) Sun, 1; "Second Annual Berkeley High School/Bay Area Film and Video Festival" Sun, 3. "Readings on Cinema": Mick LaSalle reads from Complicated Wayners: See and Pawer in Proc. Cade plicated Women: Sex and Power in Pre-Code Hollywood, followed by Design for Living (Lubitsch, 1933) Sun, 6. A Free Soul (Brown, 1931) Sun, 8:40. "Chinese Cinemas": Two Stage Sisters (Xie, 1964) Mon, 6. "Alternative Visions": "A Cinema of Pure Being: Films by Nathaniel Dorsky" Tues, 7:30.

PARAMOUNT THEATRE 2025 Broadway, Oakl. \$5. (510) 465-6400. To Kill a Mockingbird (Mulligan, 1962) *Thurs*, 7:30.

RAFAEL FILM CENTER 1118 Fourth St, San Rafael: (415) 454-1222. \$4.50-7. Chunhyang (Im, 2000) Wed-Thurs, call for times. Diary of a Chambermaid (Buñuel, 1964) Sun-Thurs, call for times. The Suicide Club (Samuels, 2000) Fri/9-Thurs/15, call for times. Rumi, Poet of the Heart (Reiss, 1998) Wed/14, 6:30 and 8:30.

REO VIC 1727 Haight; 668-3994. \$3-6.50. Double Indemnity (Wilder, 1944) *Wed*, 2, 7:15, 9:30. "Valentine's Celebration at the Red Vic Movie House" *Thurs*, 7:30, 9:30. Red Vic Movie House" Thurs, 7:30, 9:30. Special show (\$10) with live music set to short films. Last Tango in Paris (Bertolucci, 1973) Fri, 7:15, 9:50; Sat, 2, 4:40, 7:20, 9:55. Best in Show (Guest, 2000) Sun-Mon, 7:15, 9:15 (also Sun, 2, 4). Annie Hall (Allen, 1977) Tues/13-Wed/14, 7:15, 9:20 (also Wed, 2).

ROXIE 3117 16th St; 863-1087. \$3-7 Tigerland (Schumacher, 2000) Fri/9-Thurs/22, 7 and 9:30 (also Sat-Sun, Wed, 2 and 4:30).

SAN FRANCISCO CINEMATHEOUE Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission; 822-2885. \$4-7. "Tribute to Sergei Paradjanov:": The Color of Pomegranates (Paradjanov, 1969) with "Paradjanov, the Last Collage" (Kevorkiantz, 1995) *Thurs*, 7:30. "New Warhol Restorations": "Couch" (1964) and "Sunset" (1967) Sat, 8.

SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY Koret Auditorium, Lower level, 100 Larkin; 557-4277. Free. "Jazz: An African American Invention": Dizzy's Dream Band (May, 1982)

SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY

McKenna Theater, 1600 Holloway; 338-1629. Free. "One Dozen Shorts: First Class Films at Second Class Rates" Sat, 6. Short films by graduate students.

UC THEATRE 2036 University, Berk; (510) 843-FILM. \$4-6.50. Chunhyang (1m, 2000) Wed-Thurs, 4:30, 7, 9:30. Nico and Dani (Gay, 2000) Fri/9-Sun/11

WELLS FARGO MUSEUM 420 Montgomery; 358-2717. \$25-100. "Endangered Species: The Women of SAGE" Mon, 6. The Sage Project Inc., a nonprofit that provides services for women who want to leave prostitution, benefits from this screening.

YERBA BUENA CENTER FOR THE ARTS 701 Mission; 978-ARTS. \$3-7. "Chumps and Superstars: Three Takes on Pro Wrestling": "The New Life," "La Baguette," and "BB" (all Jones, 1996-2000); "The Minneapolis Wrestling Club" (Lightfoot, 1999); Hitman Wrestling Clighttook, 1999), Thinar Hart: Wrestling with Shadows (Jay, 1999) Tues-Sun, noon, 3:05. Feb 10-May 6. "Dance/Screen": "Portrait en mouvement" and "L'Anoure" Tues, 7. Films and videos of Ballet Preljocaj.

ZEUM 221 Fourth St; 777-2800. \$2-3. "Animation Celebration": My Neighbor Totoro (Miyazaki, 1988) Sun, 12:30, 3. ❖

- Kevin Thomas, LOS ANGELES TIMES

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Yum: Dr. Hannibal Lecter (Anthony Hopkins) eats up the scenery — and more — and scares FBI agent Clarice Starling (Julianne Moore) in Hannibal.

'Hannibal'

Kiss the chef

There are no lambs in Hannibal — in this grim, gruesome barnyard, the livestock pen throngs with man-eating pigs. Thomas Harris's sequel to the Oscar-sweeping The Silence of the Lambs hits the big screen with a flashier, more gore-happy director (Gladiator's Ridley Scott) stepping in for Silence's Jonathan Demme, and a new actress (Julianne Moore, capable if colorless) filling Jodie Foster's shoes as FBI agent Clarice Starling. A decade has passed since imprisoned psycho Hannibal Lecter escaped while helping catch at-large psycho Buffalo Bill. Ten years of experience have left Starling tough and surly, with a soured view of her once beloved Bureau. An illfated meth lab bust gets Starling reassigned to the Lecter case; soon she's grappling with Department of Justice fuckhead Paul Krendler (Ray Liotta), revenge-hungry Lecter victim Mason Verger (Gary Oldman, unbilled and unrecognizable), and, of course, the ol' cannibal himself (Anthony Hopkins, who steps back into character with gleeful familiarity). Lecter's been enjoying his freedom in Florence, sporting a jaunty fedora, attending the opera, and piquing the curiosity of local police inspector Rinaldo Pazzi (Giancarlo Giannini). Soon, of course, events align for a Lecter-Starling reunion. As in Silence, Lecter embodies a baffling mix of good and evil; sure, he's brutal (as Scott reminds us, over and over, with multiple flashbacks to Lecter's crimes — including that he-ate-the-nurse's-tongue job hinted at in the first film — and graphic photos of his mutilated victims), but he's just so damn clever about it, going after bad guys, cops, and assholes in the most creative ways. Silence purists will find that Hannibal lacks anything as intensive as those jailhouse meetings between Lecter and Starling — Hopkins had better chemistry with Foster, and his scenes with Moore lack that tit-for-tat tension. Once Lecter gets his groove on (i.e., starts butchering folks), Starling's role whittles into a series of battle-weary reaction shots. But though the film balances so heavily on one character — and not the woman-hero that so bolstered Silence — Hannibal works, It's a different kind of film than Silence: less cat-and-mouse detective yarn, more what II-he-do-next exploration, a mix of slashed throats, gourmet cooking, piano playing, bone saws, and those porcine killing machines. Really, when it's Dr. Lecter eating up the scenery, toss comparisons aside and let yourself be entertained. (Cheryl Eddy)

Show times run Wed/7-Tues/13 and are subject to change. Times in italic are bargain matinees. Double features are noted with a •. & Wheelchair accessible. I Listening device. P Free, reduced rate, or validated parking. See Rep Clock, page 100, for information on rep houses and special film programs.

San Francisco

ALEXANDRIA J P Geary/18th Ave. 752-5100. Call for times. The Pledge, Valentine, The Wedding Planner.

BALBOA 38th Ave/Balboa. 221-8184. Billy Elliot (plus Pieces of Silver) 1:45, 4:20, 7, 9:30. Miss Congeniality 3:20, 7:15. Wonder Boys 1:20, 5:15, 9:10.

BRIDGE Geary/Blake. 352-0810. O Brother, Where Art Thou? 2:15, 4:40, 7:15, 9:45.

CENTURY PLAZA *I* P South San Francisco, Noor off El Camino. (650) 742-9200. Cast Away Wed-Thurs, 11:55a, 3:30, 7, 10:10; FriTues, 12:05, 3:30, 7:10, 10:05. Chocolat Fri Tues, noon, 2:45, 5:20, 7:55, 10:30. Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon 11:25a, 2, 4:55, 7:40, 10:25. Head over Heels 11:40a, 1:45, 7.43, 10.23. Tread over free \$11.430, \$1.55 (Fri-Tues, 3:50 show replaces 3:55 show), 5:55, 8, 10:10. The Pledge \$11.25a, \$2:10, 5:05, 7:50, 10:30. Save the Last Dance \$11:30a, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10 (Fri-Tues, 7:25 and 10:05 shows replace 7:30 and 10:10 shows). Saving Silverman (starts Fri) 11:55a, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:55. Shadow of the Vampire Wed-Thurs, noon, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:55. Snatch 11:45a, 2:30, 5:10, 7:35, 10:05 (Fri-Tues, 10 show replaces 10:05). Sugar and

Spice 11:35a (also Wed-Thurs, 1:40, 3:45, 5:50, 7:55, 10:20). Traffic Wed-Thurs, 12:15, 3:40, 7:10, 10:15; Fri-Tues, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:25. Valentine 11:50a, 2:25, 5:15, 7:45,

CINEMA 21 2 Chestnut/Steiner, 921-6720. Hannibal (starts Fri) 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30, Shadow of the Vampire Wed-Thurs, 12:40, 3, 5:10, 7:50, 10.

CLAY 7 Fillmore/Clay. 352-0810. Chunhyang 4:10, 7, 9:40 (also Fri-Sun, 1:30; Wed,

COLMA (METRO CENTER) 7 P 280 Metro Center, Colma. (650) 994-2503. Call for times and Fri-Tues shows. Double Take, The Emperor's New Groove, Finding Forrester, The Invisible Circus, Miss Congeniality, Saving Silverman (starts Fri), Thirteen Days, The Wedding Planner.

CORONET & J P Geary/Arguello. 752-4400. Call for times. Traffic.

EMBARCADERO CENTER CINEMA & J P One Embarcadero Center, Promenade level. 352-0810. House of Mirth 12:15, 3:30, 6:45, 9:50. Malena 12:45, 3:45, 7, 9:40. Quills 1, 4, 7:10, 10. State and Main noon, 2:30, 5, 7:40, 10:15 (Thurs, no 7:40 show). You Can Count on Me 1:15, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10.

EMPIRE 7 P West Portal/Vicente. 661-2539. Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon Wed-Thurs, 1, 4, 7:15, 9:50; Fri-Tues, 1, 4, 7, 10:15. Hannibal (starts Fri) 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30. O Brother, Where Art Thou? Wed-Thurs, noon, 2:30, 5, 7:35, 10:10. Traffic 12:30, 3:45, 7 (FriTues, 6:45 show replaces 7 show), 10.

FDUR STAR Clement/23rd Ave. 666-3488. Call theater for time. The Bride with White Hair Wed, 12:10, 6. Genghis Khan Wed, 1:55, 7:45; Fri-Tues, 1:50, 7:20. George Washington Fri-Tues, noon, 3:50, 9:20. Swordsman 11 Wed, 3:55, 9:45; Thurs, noon, 5:55, 7:55. Swordsman III Fri-Tues, 3:40, 7:30. A Time for Drunken Horses Wed-Thurs, 12:10, 1:50, 6:05, 7:50; Fri-Tues, 12:10, 5:40. A Warrior's Tragedy Thurs, 1:55, 5:55, 9:45; Fri-Tues, 1:40, 5:30. Wu Yen Wed-Thurs, 3:35, 9:30; Fri-Tues, 9:20.

GALAXY & ♂ Sutter/Van Ness. 474-8700. Call for times. Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon, The Invisible Circus, Save the Last Dance,

KABUKI B & J P Post/Fillmore. 931-9800. Call theater for show times. Cast Away, Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon, The Gift, Head over Heels, Save the Last Dance, Sugar and Spice, Valentine, The Wedding Planner.

LUMIERE & # P California/Polk. 352-0810. Before Night Falls Wed-Thurs, 6:45, 9:30 (also Fri-Sun, 12:30, 3:30). The Bridge 5:10, 7:25, 9:40 (also Fri-Sun, 12:40-2:55). Nico and Dani Wed-Thurs, 5:10, 7:25, 9:40; Fri-Tues, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 (also Fri-Sun, 12:50, 3). Yi Ú The Pledge, Save the Last Dance, Shadow of the Vampire, Snatch, Sugar and Spice, Thirteen Days, Traffic, Valentine, The Wedding Planner.

METRO Union/Webster. 931-1685. Call for times. Snatch.

1000 VAN NESS & Ø P 1000 Van Ness. 931-9800. Call theater for show times. Double Take, The Emperor's New Groove, The Family Man, Finding Forrester, The Gift, Head over Heels, Miss Congeniality, The Pledge, Shadow of the Vampire, Snatch, Sugar and Spice, Thirteen Days, Traffic, The Wedding Planner, What Women Want.

352-0810. Best in Show Wed-Thurs, 2:50, 5:30, 7:30; Fri-Sun, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:55; Mon-Tues, 3, 5:30, 7:50. Billy Elliot Wed-Thurs, 2:30, 5, 7:30; Fri-Sun, 1:20, 4:10, 7:10, 9:40; Mon-Tues, 7:30; Fri-Sun, 1:20, 4:10, 7:10, 9:40; Mon-Tue 2:40, 5:10, 7:40. George Washington Wed-Thurs, 3, 5:20, 7:45. Requiem for a Dream Wed-Thurs, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40; Fri-Sun, 9:50; Mon-Tues, 2:50. Spring Forward Fri-Sun, 1:10, 4, 7, 9:30; Mon-Tues, 2:30, 5, 7:30. Yi Yi Fri-Sun, 1, 6:30; Mon-Tues, 6:30.

PRESIDIO & Chestnut/Scott, 922-1318. Chocolat Wed-Thurs, 1:30, 4:10, 7, 9:35; Fri-Tues, 12:40, 3:40, 7, 9:35.

STONESTOWN & # P 19th Ave/Winston. 221-8182. Call theater for times. Cast Away, Valen-

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} \textbf{VOGUE \mathcal{I}} & Sacramento/Presidio. 221-8183. Call for times. Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon. \\ \end{tabular}$

WORLD THEATER & Broadway/Columbus. 391-1393. Call theater for shows and times.

Oakland

GRAND LAKE & J P 3200 Grand, Oakl. 452-3556. Chocolat Wed-Thurs, 1, 4, 7:15, 9:35; Fri-Tues, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:35. Hannibal (starts Fri) 12:30, 3:45, 7, 9:45, Miss Congeman (starts Fri) 1, 3:15, 6, 8, 10. Sugar and Spice Wed-Thurs, 12:30, 2:25, 4:20, 6:15, 8:15, 10. Thirteen Days Wed-Thurs, 2:45, 8:15. Traffic Wed-Thurs, noon, 3:30, 7; Fri-Tues, 12:45, 5, 7:30.

JACK LONDON CINEMA 100 Washington Jack London Square, Oakl. 433-1320. Double Take 11a, 1:10, 3:30 (Fri-Tues, 3:35 ble lake 114, 1.10, 3.50 (FF1108, 3.50 s), s. 155, 8.15, 10:40. The Emperor's New Groove Wed-Thurs, 11:05a, 1:15, 3:25, 5:35. Finding Forrester noon, 4, 7:15, (also Wed-Thurs, also 10:10), Hannibal (starts Fri) 12:30, 1:15, 3:45, 4:30, 7, 7:45, 10, 10:45. Head over Heels Wed-Thurs, 11:10a, 1:20, 3:35, 5:50, 8:05, 10:20. The Pledge Wed-Thurs, 7:50, 10:45. Save the Last Dance 11:25a, 2:10, 4:55, 7:40, 10:30 (Fri-Tues, 7:45 and 10:35 shows replace 7:40 and 10:30 shows). Snatch 11:35a, 2:05, 4:30, 7, 9:30 (Fri-Tues, 7:45 and 10:35 shows). 7:35 and 10:05 shows replace 7 and 9:30 shows; Thurs, no 7:35 show). Traffic Wed-Thurs, 12:15, 3:45, 7, 10:15; Fri-Tues, 12:15, 3:30, 7:05, 10:20. Valentine 11:20a, 1:50, 4:35 (Fri-Tues, 4:30 show replaces 4:35 show), 7:20, 9:55. The Wedding Planner Wed-Thurs, 11:20a, 1:55, 4:30, 7:10, 10:15 (Fri-Tues, 11:15a and 4:35 shows replace 11:20a and 4:30 shows).

PARKWAY 1834 Park, Oakl. 814-2400. Requiem for a Dream Wed-Thurs, 6:30, 9:15; Fri-Tues, 7, 9:45. Rocky Horror Picture Show Sat, midnight. You Can Count on Me Wed-Thurs, 7, 9:45; Fri, Mon-Tues, 6:30, 9:15; Sat-Sun, 6, 9.

PIEDMONT J Piedmont/41st St, Oakl. 843-3456. Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon 4:15, 7, 9:40 (also Sat-Sun, 1:15). Shadow of the Vampire 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30 (also Sat-Sun, 1:30). State and Main 4, 6:45, 9:15 (also Sat-Sun, 1:40).

Berkeley area

ACT I AND II J P Center/Shattuck, Berk. 843-3456. Chunhyang 7:10, 9:50 (also Sat-Sun, 1:10, 4:10). Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon Wed-Thurs, 5:30, 7, 8:30, 9:40; Fri-Tues, 7, 9:45 (also Sat-Sun, 1, 4).

ALBANY & 2 1115 Solano, Albany. 843-3456. Malena 6:30, 8:45 (also Sat-Sun, 1:30, 4). State and Main 6:45, 9 (also Sat-Sun, 1:45, 4:15).

CALIFORNIA J P Kittredge/Shattuck, Berk. 843-3456. Chocolat 4:20, 7, 9:30 (also Fri-Sun, 1:40). The Gift 4:30, 7:15, 9:40 (also Fri-Sun, 1:50). Shadow of the Vampire 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:45 (also Fri-Sun, 1:30).

ELMW00D 2966 College, Berk. 649-0530. Call for shows and times.

EMERY BAY & J P 6330 Christie Emeryville, 420-0107. Call for times. Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon, Double Take, Head over Heels, The Pledge, Save the Last Dance, Saving Silverman (starts Fri), Snatch, Thirteen Days, Traffic, Valentine, The Wedding Planner.

OAKS & 2 1875 Solano, Berk. 526-1836. The Emperor's New Groove Fri, Mon-Tues, 6; Sat-Sun, 12:15, 2. Snatch 7, 9:15 (also Sat-Sun, noon, 2:15, 4:30). Thirteen Days 7:30 (also Sat-Sun, 4).

ORINDA & J 4 Orinda Theater Square, Orinda. 254-9060. Cast Away 6, 9 (also Sat-Sun, noon, 3). Chocolat Wed-Thurs, 4:15, 7, 9:30; Fri-Tues, 6:45, 9:15 (also Sat-Sun, 12:30, 3:30). Shadow of the Vampire Wed-Thurs, 4, 6:15, 8:15, 10. You Can Count on Me Fri-Tues, 7, 9:30 (also Sat-Sun 1, 4).

SHATTUCK CINEMAS & 2 2230 Shattuck. Berk. 843-3456. Before Night Falls 2:05, 5:10, 8:15. Best in Show 4, 9:35. Billy Elliot 1:20, 3:50, 6:30, 9. Finding Forrester 12:50, 3:45, 6:40, 9:25. Head over Heels 1, 3:10, 5:10, 7:20, 9:30. The House of Mirth 2, 5:10, 7:20, 9:30. The House of Mirth 2, 5:05, 8:10. O Brother, Where Art Thou? 12:40, 3:05, 5:30, 7:50, 10:10. The Pledge 1:30, 4:15, 7:05, 9:45. The Wedding Planner 2:10, 4:40, 7, 9:30. Yi Yi 12:45, 6. You Can Count on Me 1:45, 4:10, 6:50, 9:15.

UA BERKELEY 2 2274 Shattuck, Berk. 843-1487. Call for times. Cast Away, Double Take, The Invisible Circus, Save the Last Dance, Sugar and Spice, Traffic, Valentine. ❖





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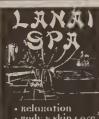
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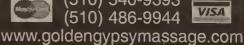
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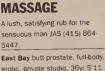
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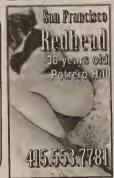
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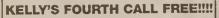
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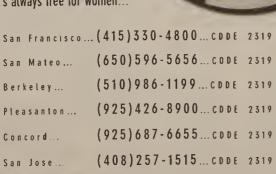








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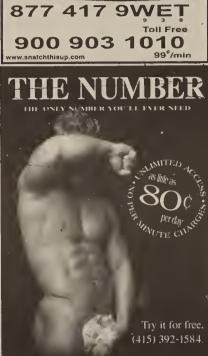
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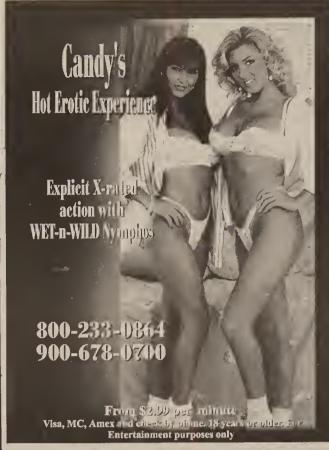
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WOMESEKINGMEN

My name's Nike. I'm just looking for someone to talk to. I'm 5'5", weigh 141 lbs. & am 19 yrs. old. I'm just looking for a friend to kick it, just go to the movies, hang out & do all kinds of things with. If you want to know more about me, you know what to do. Box 11057.

I've got brown hair, blue eyes, am 5'4" & weigh 140 lbs. I'd like to meet a man between the ages of 28-46. He must be sweet, have a sense of humor & be fun to be with. I like going out & doing things. I enjoy traveling & cooking. I'm looking for a man for a senous relationship if possible. Box 6756.

My name's Pat. I live in north Sacramento. I'm 62 yrs old, 5'4" tall & have brown hair & brown eyes. I'm full-figured. I'm a young 62. I'd like to meet a single, divorced, white male who's 49+ yrs. old. **Box 4398.**

I'm a very classy. Caucasian woman who likes to back pack around the forest. I love to travel & I'm looking for companionship. I'm a college graduate & I think I deserve the best. If you think you deserve the best, why don't you get back to me. Box 4424.

I'm 5'11", weigh 160 lbs., have brown hair & eyes, long legs & I'm Italian. I love fun, gambling & traveling. I'm looking for a gentleman who's preferably white, 6' plus, who has lots of time on his hands & wants to travel as much as I do. Box 32048.

My name's Rachel & I live in San Francisco. I'm getting a divorce. I've been living on my own for 6 months. I just got back into the dating scene. I'm a professional musician therefore I keep odd hours, late hours & get free-time during the day. Box 12245.

MESEEKINWOMEN

My name's Aaron. I have sky-blue to ice-blue eyes, depending on my mood & how I'm feeling. My height is 5'8". I have short, blond hair that's at about eye level. I have a tattoo of a mushroom on my right shoulder. My lips are pierced with a blue spike. I'm kind of a poet. Box 9294.

I'm originally from Chicago. I have lived in Pittsburgh for about 4 months. I'm 5'10" in height & weigh 170 lbs. I have brown skin & brown eyes with short hair. I'm nicely-built. I have six tattoos & both my ears are pierced. I used to strip. I'm into singing, rapping & sexy, computer drawing

I'm an attractive, single, white male. I'm height/weight proportionate. I'm professionally employed. I'm a nonsmoker, a non-drug user & I enjoy light alcohol. I'm looking for a lady who's down-to-earth & honest. Please leave a message. Box 31932.

My name's John. I'm 28 yrs, old, 6' tall & weigh 185 lbs. I'm Indian. I love sports, football, basketball & hockey. You name it, I play it. I like movies & music. I play the saxophone a little bit. I love to travel & I love computers. I'm a world traveler. I'm looking to meet someone in the age group of 23-35 yrs, old. I want someone who's open-minded & frendly. Hopefully we will have some similar interests. **Box 7595**.

My name's David. I stand 5'7". I'm 38 yrs. old & weigh 205 bs. I have dark hair & eyes. I'm a rough type & enjoy the outdoors & physical activities like camping & fishin I'm a big A's fan. I like full-sized women. **Box 4372.**

My name's Tom. I feel it's important that you know that I'm an achiever. I wanted a good education & to study in Europe. I wanted a professional career & what I'm now doing is achieving that goal. I'm looking for someone to be a partner with. **Box 3553.**

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SWF, youngish 50, 5'4", fit, slender, very attractive, self-sufficient, straightforward, good hearted, straightforward, good-hearted, affectionate, playful, humorous, at home in blue jeans, by no means a square or a freak, enjoys outdoors, flea markets, rock and roll, movies, cooking, hiking, camping, laughing, conversation.

JUST WANNA NAVE FUN

JUST WANNA NAVE FUN Italian SWF, 22, S'6", brown/brown, likes cooking, sports, running, working our, walks on the beach, movies, reading, clubs, Seeking fun-loving, outgoing SM for friendship first. \$\textstyle{3}\text{2842S}\$

FRONY PRINCESS

Very attractive, honest, passionate S8F, 2S, seeks generous, discrening gentleman al times with me. 28433

SCORPIOLOOKSFRNEXTOBSESSN

IMPRESSIVE BEAUTY

Pretty, petite, slender, muscular, fair, long hair, feminine, complexly educated, artistic SAFE, 44. Desires deeply thoughtful, good looking, highly educated, sensual, athletic SWAM, 42-SO, who pleasures of mind and body, ex ation of nature, arts, travel.

Leftist, nghter activist, seeks in telligent progressive men, who want to change the world for in-tellectual stimulation, fun, I like

EMPHASIS-PASSION
Pretty, petite, educated, athletic, slender SJF, 44, brunette,
beautiful eyes/legs, seeks emotional, intellectual/physical intimacy, with well-educated, athletic SWM, 40s, loves nature/art,
the compatible deparage family. committed romance, family

SEEKING GENEROUS MAN

SWF, 5'5", 110lbs, 32c, likes to show a man a good time. Seeking affluent, generous man tp have goos times with. \$\mathbb{T}\$8397

Each week the 8ay Guardian chooses the best ad for our weekly "Ad of the Week" Contest. Winners receive a gift cer-tificate for two to great restau-

TALL APHRODITE SEEKS...

Clark Kent. Beautiful, intelligent, psychologically and spiritually on ented, curvaceous female, 39. S'11", with advanced degrees, seeks tall, intelligent, degreed, spiritual, compassionate male, spiritual, compassiona with integrity. \$\mathbb{\alpha}\$8308

FIT ASIAN PROFESSIONAL

SEEKING

Pretty, witty writer with hazel eyes and high ideals seeks LTR with stable, caring man. My interests include progressing politics, film art, gardening, and comedy. \$\overline{\pi}\$8269

S8PF, 41, homeowner, enjoys baseball, football, opera, dining out. Seeking SM for friendship, possible LTR. If you can cook,

ICE CREAM FOR DINNER

Letting the dishes pile up and having a penchant for cute Euro-pean men are among my weak-nesses. I can handle the first two myself, but I may need help with the third. Cute, petite SWF, 32, seeks European male.

LOOKING FOR ADVENTURE

Mid-S0s gal, S'6", 13Slbs, a little bit country, little bit rock-n-roll, with business mind, seeks ma-ture, older gent. \$\oldsymbol{T}6811

LOOKING FOR SOMEDNE SPECIAL

Are you?, Attractive, 41year-old SW/HF, S'7", in good shape, long ate, responsible, with a good heart, seeks LTR, with a man of substance, with the same qualities, to share life together.

THE WOMAN IN ME Sensitive, intelligent, very pas-sionate AF, 39, N/S, N/Orugs, seeks Latino male, 3S-60, for discrete relationship full of sat-isfaction to a woman's needs. Companionship, fun times, and Spanish speaking

THROW CAUTION TO THE WIND

28-37, to enjoy comedy, music tv, films. Could it be you? \$7936

TIGRESS SEEKING...
SF, 19, S'6", fit, dark hair/light skin, enjoys clubs, beaches, parties, art, karate, working out and exploring the city. Sound interesting? Please be a serious and sincere SM, 18-30, 277937

Tantric, more, pretty, fit, erotic, semi-Asian, sane, successful, fun, no baggage, STOs, vices seeks similar med tall SWM 40-50. Monogamous, open LTR switch, ok. \$\mathcal{D}\$6932

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1 Pearz

with knock out bod and gradu-ate degree seeks adventure with an athletic 4S+ Indiana Jones

PALE. THIN, GOTHIC FEMALE

Hoping there's still a single, long-haired, beautiful male counter-part for moon-filled romance, ac-

LIVE A LITTLE!

Creative, attractive, tall, fit, funny SJF seeks similar adjectives in non-smoking SM, 30-S0. 8onus for screwball comedy, jazz, basketball fans. 26936

Very warm, attractive, artistic, invery warm, attractive, artistic, in-telligent woman seeking brave, funny man, 34-S0 to build beau-tiful life, family. I'm S'7", Mediter-ranean looks, slim, bilingual, lived outside US, love culture, wilderness, community \$6970

PIECE DE ART

Are you an honest, loving, car-ing, no vices SWM, tall 50-65? Me: 49, cute, Jewish noncon-formist, 10 personality. Likes garage sales, dining out, movies, casual dresser for LTR. \$\oldsymbol{\pi}\$\$ \$475

PM YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

I'M YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION You want to capture more joy in life with a dynamic, affectionate, voluptuous, slim, S'7', classy, homeowner. You: SWPM, 40s, N/S, socially adept, good com-municator, capable of connect ing on an intellectual, intimate \$\pi 7816\$

39, educated, sincere, passionate and no children seeks WPM, 45-S8, successful, loving, caring and faithful for LTR/possible marnage. N/S. 27797

JEWISN CNER TYPE 49, transplanted Mramian, seeks financially secure, tall SWM, non-smoker, non-drinker SO-6S, sense of humor is vitally important, likes garage sales, scrabble, pool, din looking for honesty. \$\omega\$5487

BLUE EYED IN REPKELEY

there is any intelligent, warm-hearted, non-smokers also look-ing for a LTR, possibly marriage

PETITE PASSIONATE PIXIE

tion, city walks, cultural events and cuddling. Possible LTR. 26977

DEAR GDD, Please send me a happy, healthy, handsome, honest, kind, compassionate, spiritual and emotionally available S/DM, 40-SO, N/S, N/Dr, and no klds. Love Anne. 12 6949

DEEP SOUL DIVER

Artistic, engaging, passionate woman (SWF, 36) loves dancing, people, loving, living. Spirited, spiritual, down-to-earth; tall, beauteacher. Seeks vital, attractman (30s-40s) for t \$\oldsymbol{2}\tau69\$\$

OIL SHEIK,

Investor, tycoon, dealer or any other financially endowed man sought by 21 year old, tall, curvy, exotic arm candy. P.S. be very generous. \$\oldsymbol{2}6938\$

ART, TRAVEL, WEALTH

Charismatic performing artist/poet 46, flamboyant seeks daring, modem art lover. 8e SWM in 40s S0s love films, travel, spirituality for deep, serious connection. \$\overline{\Omega} 6971\$

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access a voice greeting within 30 seconds of your call.

Seeks wise sweet loving man. I'm 4S, mid-west born, east coast educated. would love to find friendship and more, share laughs, ideas, adventures, life's story, sensuality, with an evolved minded, nurturing man, 45

FRENCH CONNECTION

nor, bon vivant- Let's meet **☎**6959

Spiritual Diva, 27, attractive seeks male companion for dinner, movies and new adventures in SF. \$782\$

BE MY VALENTINE
Christian, pretty, 31, kindhearted, honest seeks best friend and soulmate. 26986

people who love to go out. enjoy art, clubs, the beach, concerts, parties, belly dancing and more. Sound interesting? Then give me a call... 26954

VALENTINE'S WISH

East 8ay, sweet, intelligent, fi-nancially secure beauty seeks professional 50-65 culturally di-verse, with social interests and

Slim, S'S', Asian female over 30 seeking educated White male 40-S0 over S'S'. 8e responsible, financially stable, sensitive, warm. N/S, No kids. Serious only!

40... BUT NOT!

Susty, SIIm SWF, big, brown bedroom eyes, high cheekbones, (former model, exotic dancer, massage therapist, budding book writer), open to VIP SWM, house/sall boat owner, A+, for dating, playing darts, internet exploring at your place. Marin preferred. 27934

NORTH BAY BEAUTY
Looking for a soul connection
with that certain someone. You
are 45-S7, tall, trim, confident,
vegetanan, N/S, N/O. I am beautiful, blonde, S'4", 119lbs, professional, self sufficient, very toether, hip lady. 27932

8right, slightly sarcastic SWJF, 38, seeks warm, intelligent, down-to-earth SJM, 3S+, with good sense of humor, for garage

Unipolar, slightly nuts SF, 3S, obviously many interests, seeks jolly, herbal SM, 32-38, to go to the other side with. \$\mathbf{T}7021\$

I WANT IT ALL

late, easygoing and respectful **2**6899

Artistic, engaging, passionate woman (SWF, 36), loves dancing, people, loving, living. Spirited, ing, people, loving, living, spirited, spiritual, down to earth; tall, beautiful, athletic; actress, musician. Seeks vital, attractive man for the journey, and the dance. \$\overline{\pi}6873\$

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SWM, 6'1", 18S, well-built, muscular ood, 38, looks younger, very sexy, romantic, passionate, in telligent, witty, monogamous with tractive, similar female for sharing the diversity that life 27002

Open-minded, curious? Seeking love, romance, excitement, fun, adventure? Sought by sensual, slim, fit SWM, 44, 278426

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SWM. 6'1", light hair, likes house music, clubs, the outdoors. Seek

PALE, LARGE-SIZED

Chubby, fat, voluptuous natura redhead, any age, wanted by tall athletic, handsome, Mediter ranean WM, 29, green eyes. I am monogamous, considerate, romantic. **25**8313

SMART, CREATIVE, FUNNY

Tall, nice-looking SM, 44, musi-clan/author, who enjoys out-doors, travel, music, conversa-tion, seeks bright, beautiful SF for friendship, possibly more 278319

SWM, 34, N/S, no children, loves nature, wine, death metal, indie film, Indiana Jones movies. Seeking female, 24-40. \$\mathbf{T}\$8310

Fun SWM, 21, S'11", 190lbs, brown/blue, loves partying, hav-ing fun, the outdoors, camping, backpacking. Seeking female, 18-21. 278312

NDN-CONFORMIST...
seeks accomplice. SM, 34,
S'10°, 8erkeley graduate, snow
boarder, cycler, skater, reliable
and funny. Smile a must. Almost everything else negotiable, 2S+ preferred, \$\overline{\Omega}\$8408

USUAL STUFF

Me: SAM, 29, S'7", 1SSlbs, per-fect, god-like, no scars, marks, or tattoos. You: SA/WF, maximum 3

WARM, COMPASSIONATE

Attractive, health-conscious SWM, mid-40s, vegetarian, insightful, very open, playful. Like reading, current events, dancing, ethnic restaurants, psychology, meditation. Seeking like-minded female

ATTRACTIVE AND CARING

Professor, 33, athletic and artis-tic, passionate and pensive, lover of life. Seeking sharp, self aware, sensuous and adventurous man who loves to laugh

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8ritish-accented, Progressive lib eral, agnostic buddhist, 30s Ph.O, slim, long haired, mediter Prior, sim, long haired, mediter-ranean-looking, devastatingly, bloody handsome East Indian Prince, seeks witty, dangerous fair maiden the gypsy warned aboutl \$78306

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NDRNY AND HAIRY?

GOT NUGS?

OO YOU FIND.,

Tall, handsome, slender WM, 3S, with wild tongue, will bang and eat your messy bush until you cum. Any age. \$\mathbf{T}\$8303

Youthful, sensitive, good looking WM, SO, too busy for a senous

relationship, seeks attractive, adventurous, open-minded, middle-aged/senior lady for hugs and massages. **28**304

most professional types boring? Creative men too difficult? Bal-anced, creative, professional Latin gentleman, late 30s, seeks

Latin lady, 30s, for LTR. 2830S

salt-n-pepper/blue, likes long walks through the city, movies, reading. Seeking fit, respectful SF to be my buddy. \$\overline{\Omega}\$8406

princess wanted. SWM, 32, blond/blue, 6'3", 230lbs, ath-letic, seeks a woman of Asian, East Indian, or Latin descend for

LTR, possible marriage. 28309

Oown-to-earth, husky, huggable, loveable SAM, 21, seeks understanding, caring SF for friendship first, possible LTR. \$\overline{\mathbb{T}} 8293

MYHEADLINEHUH? OHBOY...
Me: SWM, 160lbs, S'8", who's alternative, edgy, deep, yet an uncontrollable nut at times. You:

real, interesting, creative, adventurous, cute, similar height. \$\overline{\pi}\$8294

Sensuously assertive, humorous, endowed OWM, S9, seeks pas-

sionate, creative, feminine part-ner, 39-55, in/near SF, for loving, playful LTR, dining, movies, com-munication. \$\mathbf{T}\$8171

This educated performer, poet, day jobber, and sailor, 46, occasional smoker, seeks a woman

I have to find a sexy goddess who would like to go with this

tall, dark, handsome WM. Audi-

18+. Contact me 27816S

I GO TO EUROPE IN 3 WEEKS

EXTREMELY INTELLIGENT

TRUMPET PLAYER

FASYGOING

Connections, 520 Hampshire Street, San Francisco, CA 94110-1417.

RECENTLY CAME WEST

SAM SEEKS TATTOOED GIRL Heavily tattooed musician, wit long hair, seeks stylish SWF, fo bar-hopping/live shows, and diring out, possible LTR. **28**172

DESTINATION BURNING MAN

Travel in beautiful, comfy motor home. Very attractive, delightful, sexy, super healthy, dark-haired SM, 34, S'11*, desires attractive adventurer, heipful, fun, independent, slender, feminine curves. 178173

Athletic, attractive, versatile SWM, 26, S'11*, 175lbs, goatee, shaven/blue-green, great stamlna, oral expert, seeks happy, beautiful, young woman.

Fit, athletic SM, 6'3". 170lbs loves foreplay, possess an im-mense amount of stamina. De ducated women, 35-46

This is an excellent way for singles to meet. Widowed WM, SOs, 6'1", seeks emotionally available, affectionate SWF, 48-S6, dating, LTR. Let's meet for coffee \$\oldsymbol{B}\$8154

8i-Coastal Creative Female muse wanted by fit male to help reignite passion to paint and to make vis-

SHOT IN THE DARK
College-educated SWM, 44, no children, seeks smart, attractive, intelligent, verbose SF, age unimportant, for mutually enriching experience. 281S2

LAUGHTER AND LOVE

Handsome, athletic, funny, sen-sitive, passionate SWM, 36, sci-entist, seeks similarly smart, happy, funny, opinionated, kind SF laughter, love. 281S9

family, and community. 27982

municative, and passionate. I'm

SAN FRANCISCO PROFESSIONAL

tle down with. Tell me wi may be you. Ages 30-40. 256986

328-0133. You must be 18+

Slim, athletic SWM, 21, 6 ft. with sea green eyes, brown hair w/blonde highlights, like clubing, raves, shows, museums, the ocean, galleries, everything in between. Sound interesting?

BI-COASTAL CREATIVE TYPE

Piercings/tattoos a+ 78150

SERIOUS SOUL WORK Seeking a life partner for a calm, tender relationship based on emotional, spiritual, sexual ex-ploration, fun, dance, good food.

SOUL MATE SOUGHT

by tall, handsome, brown-eyed man. Please be confident, com-

Man seeks Asian woman. SWM, 46, handsome and romantic, looking to find the right AF to set

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Calls cost \$1,99/minute. Charge your credit by calling: 877-337-3292.

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Cost is \$1.99 per minute. You must be at least 18 years of age

NON-WDRKAHDLIC LAWYER

FRENC CONNECTION
French, beautiful, blonde, blue
eyes, 33 years old, Libra, long
iegs, S'7", 130 lbs., sincere and
honest looking for European man
between 30-S0, clean cut, well
traveled, attractive, sense of

19 year old, 5'6", dark brown hair and eyes, fit, 100% European, Looking for

similar qualities. 26989

WARMNEARTED, ATTRACTIVE

40... BUT NOT!

NORTH BAY REALITY

RREAKEAST ALLY SHEEDY

I WANT IT ALL

I seek a smart, sensitive, professional young man, 20-34, for
friendship and maybe more.

DEEP SOUL DIVER

Placing your ad in the 8ay

To find out about upcoming



GREAT CATCN

SHM, 29, dark/brown, likes animals, outdoors, writing. Seeking honest, down-to-earth SF with similar interests for dating.

328-0133. You must be 18+. Calls cost \$1.99/minute.

Charge your credit by calling 1-877-337-3292.

OWM, 37, N/S, athletic, enjoys travel, roughing it, beaches, and San Francisco's attractions. Seeking a female, 27:37, to share these activities. \$8168

CURIOUS SBM 37

seeks first interracial relationship. Confident, honest, humorous, dark, good looks, great body, sharp mind seeks communicative, intelligent, funny, physically fit woman 20s-30s. 276967

Affluent, attractive, athletic SWM, 6', 185lbs, 39, seeks smart and sexy best friend/lover, 27-37 for marriage/family. N/S, please no kids yet. \$\frac{\pi}{2}7798\$

SWM, VERY YOUTHFUL SOS

510", 155. Enjoy cultural activities, nature, communication, traveling. Sophisticated but casual. Emotionally/financially secure. Seeking sharing, slim woman. 206988

cial interests and similar qual ties 276368

SEEKING ASIAN FEMALE

SWPM, handsome, 34, da hair/green eyes, 6'1", 17 healthy, loving, caring, many in-terests, dining, arts, nature, music, seeking AF, attractive, 18-28, good morais, never married, for meaningful friendship, pos-sibly mo 26913

EXPERIENCED OADOY LOVES

his good girl. Seeking friend/love. I'm 44, 6'1", fit, European. 8e

34, 5'2", well-endowed, seeks hot college chicks 18-20, under 5'4", should enjoy adult toys, videos, photography, sexy lingerie.

ITALIAN FOR ASIAN

Authentic Italian, very attractive, 30, tall, athletic, open-minded, sensitive and creative seeks sweet, beautiful Asian girl with same qualities. \$\mathbf{T}7806\$

versation, company, I the rest

SM WHO LIKES:

kind of blue/Catch-22/Grace land/Right Ho Jeeves/Brandphi burg Concertos/Philadelphia story/Magritte/Mother Night/lin /switch hitters/words/seek

White male, 5'11", dark hair, green eyes, seeking a female(s) for mutually beneficial encounters. Please be height/weight proportionate and open. 25944

Tali, muscuiar, well endowed Italian-American pleasant features, slightly sardonic seeks pretty woman of the busty, curvy body type for tea. 26972

6'4", clean, huggable, long hair artist, looking for fun. Sex op-tional. You: top heavy, open-mind-ed, preferably Bi, likes a good

SEEKING RUSSIAN PRINCESS!

Tall, casual, romantic, professional SWM, 45, seeks intelli gent, attractive, passionate Russ ian Woman with values and healthy lifestyle mystery and

The 8ay Guardian has expand ed its service to make ad placement faster and easier.
Call 1-877-895-7996 anytime to

420 COWBOY

Looking for a Chronic Girl who likes the outdoors activities and some indoor fun - talking, working out and massages. Hoping for a genuine friendship. Write me. Attn: SFBG Connections/ "Chronic Cowboy". \$\alpha\$6750

OATING RECIPE

Mix supportive, monogamous, secure, handsome, SM, 25, with career, accommodations. Add conversation, good listener, passionate kisser. Serve with inde

SWM FOR SBF

Tall, endowed, 39 seeks inde-pendent 8lack woman. I'm be-hind you, on my knees offering devotion after your sweaty exercise routine. 27820

HANOSOME, SINGLE OBM

Tall professional, educated, seeks attractive, slender female any race for friendship and ro

singles scene? Handsome 32 year-old SWPM, who enjoys life seeks attractive SWPF for possible LTR. 256846

OUTDOORS WOMAN WANTED

DWM, 44, ISO companion for out-door adventures, movies, etc., to enjoy life with. I'm spontaneous, independent, easygoing, adventurous. Seeking a woman who is ready for a down-to-earth nice guy. \$\oldsymbol{2}6951\$

ART APPRECIATING NICE GUY

Friendly, nice looking, tali, trim, successful designer. Smart, sometimes clueless. Hiking, movies, SF MOMA, dogs. Seeking trim, female, 30s to early

Dark-haired woman any race (23-40) sought by European Professional Gentleman 43, 6'3", 210, blue, brown/blonde for mutual oral satisfaction. Call me and tell me what you like. 27000

Clean-cut, easygoing guy seeks female interested in casual sport-sex rendezvous. No STDs, just sweet R&R. 76668

NO SHORT SKIRTS

no shorts ever. Never married, young at heart WM with many interests would cherish the consistent modesty of a woman fo all seasons. Asian a plus. \$6822

ADD IT UP

You prefer "Run Lola Run" to "Home Alone." (+15) Radiohead rocksI (+20)You prefer chicken pox to Sunday cafe breakfast. (-7)You prefer museums to laur dromats. (+6). You'd rather spend 30)Y 256920

Receive a free therapeutic/sensual massage and oral-fantasy fulfillment from a handsome, athletic male. Weekdays/weekends

8BW with style an substance de sired for intimacy and more, by at-tractive, clean-cut, nice, spiritual, sophisticated, Perslan-born White male, 44 with MA and MBA de grees. 256709

Creative, intelligent, sophisticat ed Australian 36, 6'2", 200 lbs. women with caring heart for fun and romance. \$\oldsymbol{\pi}7006

successful, Intelligent, generous, affectionate, tali, fun, seeks sweet, smart, attractive, fun, positive, open-minded, SAF for share ing outdoor activities, traing, concerts, film, 27814

Attractive, multiracial male, 51,6'2", 220, caring, giving, n/s, lite drinker seeks special lady for dining, smiling, music and nice evenings. \$\overline{\Omega} 7824

SWM, 5'10", 150 lbs., 45, ISO older lady for LTR, age open. Must be sincere and affectionate. \$\mathbf{T}6940\$

RETIRED NIPPY

Senior SWM (over 63), tall, artis-tic, creative, sensitive, seeks LTR with intellectual, liberated, nonageist soulmate. Interests: theater, reading, writing, non-separatist feminism, practical

Black man 62, single, retired, I live alone, 6'3", 290, don't smoke, drink or use drugs, quiet, 50-70. If interested reply **6**6794

TALL, HANOSOME, CONSIDERATE, professional DWM (great touch assets and values) seeks bright

MAN, 54, **ENDOWED**

priceless gifts—lively mind, kind heart, playful spirit, fit body—de sires woman equally femininel changing gifts. P.O. 80x 28 S F, CA 94128. \$\overline{1}{2}6978

LET'S TALK SOON!

Seeking a woman who must be willing to lie about how we met. Fun. passionate SPM, 29 seeks SWF 24 to 40, 277793

SWM, 50+, honest, Sincere and compassionate professional en-joys romantic walks, hand hold ing, cuddling, movies, dancing theater, concerts, romantic din ners and travel. ISO SWF 40-55. with similar interests. \$\mathbf{T}69B3

SWM, 43, decent, honest, oper passionate, professional, cre-ative ISO special SBF 27-43, eclectic, romantic, kind, forth-right, attractive, fit for adventure and romance. \$7001

and desires adventure. Searching for an independent, smart, affectionate N/S SF with a brain and cute toes. \$\overline{\pi}\$6975

HANOSOME AFFLUENT

WM, entrepreneur, 48, athletic traveler into: Tahoe, romance antiques, epicurean delights, hugs, good friends seeks lady of

gent (Ph.D.), good-looking, 6', fit works out, youthful early 50s kind, passionate, open-minded positive, spiritually aware, humorous, good listener, who loves music, especially jazz, c \$\overline{\alpha}6982\$

Handsome, intelligent, well-edu-cated, charismatic, athletic, sex-ually attractive, humble, humorous, intense young man seeks female counterpart for friendship and good times. 26942

Me: 50, Black, founder nonprofit chanty, smart, funny, honest. You: Black, shy, passive, finan-cially secure. 26939

DOWN ON MY KNEES

where. No muff too tought

Medium height, medium build, easygoing, good natured, early 50s seeking a girl for dating between 5'-5'6", medium height/build, who is also easy

SWM, 61, 5'11", 200 ibs., wear SWM, 61, 5'11', 200 lbs., wear dentures, retired blue collar, seeks 55+ femme/casual lady. Enjoy home, TV, travel, comfort food and conversation. Hirsute a plus. 26'673B

NOE SEEKS COLE VALLEY

or...Tall, lean, good-looking, independent, professional (41) with humor, style and parking problems seeks similar F(28-3B). I love indie films, Vietnamese food, far torguas. 20:6963

SOCIALLY INEPT GUY

mature, serious SWJM, 40, N/S, enjoys beaches, scuba diving, sking. Seeking female, 34-42, to teach me how to dance.

7933

Successful, professional, athle ic, fit, romantic, sexy, great sense of humor, well-educated, SWM, 36, seeks SWF, 21-36, who is 36, seeks SWF, 21-36, Who is professional, athletic, fit, romantic, sexy, has a great sens: of humor and who seeks a long term and monogamous relationship. 27698

LONG-HAIRED MUSICIAN

SWM, 2B, seeks woman, 18-30, for intense, monogamous relationship, travel, and Incredible adventures. \$\oldsymbol{\Pi}\$7699

HARO OUTSIDE, SOFT INSIDE

SWM, 34, chef, short, muscular, has tattoos, goatee, and bald head, with lots of love, respect, and tenderness inside. Seeking female for friendship, possibly more. \$\mathbf{T}\$7691

FULL FIGURED WF OESIRED

Humorous, creative, intelligent, Italian WM, 47, 5'10", no chidren, enjoys conversation, food, travel, photography, gardening, music. Seeking active, full-figured, busty, feminine WF, no kids. LTR. 127693

SEEKING PERFECT MASSAGE?

Are you looking for the perfect massage? Warm, handsome, athletic, lean, nurturing young man

BROTHA SEEKING BI SISTA

Educated S8M, 40, seeks Bi sista, 30-45, who's smart, passionate, sexy, adventurous, phys ically fit, attractive, level-headed

GO FOR IT!

Me: intelligent, athletic, very active, liberal-minded, funny SWM, 35, 5'10", with eclectic tastes, addicted to traveling, weight-lifting. You: attractive and fun to spend time with. \$\mathbf{T}\$7690

Affectionate, eclectic SAM, 42, computer professional, enjoys fine arts, travel, cooking, animals, reading, foreign/indie films. Seeking SW/AF, 28-45, for friendship and possible relationship. 27075

LOOKING FOR A SOULMATE

SWM, 4B, smoker, retired Milli tary, business owner, enjoys walks on the beach, holding hands, spending quality time as a couple. Seeking spontaneous SF, 30-55, for a fun and loving LTR. 277077

NEW IN THE AREA

Intelligent, open-minded, sensitive, Cuban-American SM, 24, enjoys travel, beaches, all sports and athletic activities, movies, music, dancing. Seeking honest, smart SF, 19-25, for relationship.

SEARCNING FOR MY PRINCESS Interracial SPM, 25, 5'11 265lbs, seeks SPF for LTR to stimulate mentally and physical Age/race unimportant, 27067

PASSIONATE, ATHLETIC

8right, trim, handsome, suc-cessful, highly educated SWPM, youthful 45, enjoys diving, ski-ing, running, cycling, backpacking, travel, music, dance, art, door/outdoor adventure. Se ing kind, intelligent, open-minded SF, 35-50. \$\mathbb{T}\$7071

Here for the rainy season...look Ing to share evenings with a SWPF, 33-35. If you have some free nights, why not see if we

PASSION AND ROMANCE

Very passionate, loving, romantic SWM, 26, brown/blue, seeks Si for no strings, open, honest, pas sionate, fun, physical contions and romance. Life is shelt's start enjoying. \$\overline{\alpha}\$7046

Attractive, fit SWM scientist, enjoys photography, exercise, hiking, outdoors, bicycling, golf, learning new things. Seeking attractive, intelligent, creative female, youthful, and enthusiastic あ7047

MEN SEEKING MEN

Good-looking guy, not into the scene, seeks regular guy, 27-37, for possible long-term relation

"ALL-AMERICAN" GJY
SM, 30, 6'3'', 190lbs,
blond/blue, swims five times a
week, enjoys hiking, travel, and literature. If this sounds interesting,
give me a cail! "BB301"

Super cute DJ, young but sane, spontaneous yet stable, kinky but loyal, into adventure, nature, Seeking male, 21-35 HIV+ 278302

BI-CURIOUS TOP Handsome, athletic, fit DWM, 5'B", 170lbs, muscular swim-mer's build, seeks healthy, fit, under 45. 278396 Down-to-earth GWM, 35, 160lbs hazel eyes, versatile, enjoys reading, movies, cooking, dining out, and dancing. Seeking guys, 31-39, under 5'8", for dating/LTR. \$\alpha\$8167

SEXY, HOT BOOY

handsome, clean-shaven Auheuc, handsome, clean-shaven GWM, 33, 5'11", 172 lbs, blond/blue, enjoys working out, movies, candlelight. Seeking similar gentleman, black/light. Do you want to be my lover tonight? \$251

LOOKING FOR ADVENTURE SM, 39, seeks young WM, 18-30, for a good time. 28254

TRIM ANO ATTRACTIVE WM, 40, bottom, seeks W/AM, 30-50, top, must be clean and discreet and must like kissing.

HANGSOME ARMENIAN

HANUSUME ARMENIAN
Good-looking, 42, 5°9", 160lbs,
light brown-complexion,
black/brown, professional, romantic, in LA. Seeking masculine, straight-acting, Black/South
American/Italian, total top male, 22-42, honest, sincere, for dating/traveling. TB156

SPANISH LOVER

Slim, physically fit, romantic Scan dinavian male, with nice blue eyes and smile, moustache, de Snuggly, 28155

CUTE EUROPEAN

Handsome, talented, smooth, 42, 5'9", ISO HIV., younger Asian male 18-35 for friendship and more. \$\alpha\$7819 WINTER PLAYMATE Masculine, versatile bottom Black maie 5'10", 175 lbs.

The creative live life passionate-lyl Europeans connect better. 30s, blue-eyed, 1B2 cm, seeks Frenchman aged 20-40s

Handsome Latino "boy", 27, 5'7", 135, goatee, bottom, ISO hot, generous dad type (40-55) for LTR or fun night out on the town. \$\alpha\$7823

OLDER, ACTIVE, INTELLIGENT

62 year-old GWM, HIV+, healthy Italian ISO partner in things I like. Theater, symphony, movies, hiking, camping, travel and adventure. I'm easygoing, versatile, non tobacco. 256953

HORNY STUDENT

private, I'm sincere, let's chat.

WM, late thirties, 8rown hair/Blue/Green eyes, 6'1, 185, clean-shaven gym-going, academic(Ph.D), nice, warm stable, communicative, non-superficial, engaging, humorous. You: 25-45, college-educated, professional, interest \$6947

OLDER SEEKS YOUNGER

67 year-old athletic, 8i or DWPM, looking for a WM under 40 for safe, discreet from Marin County.

ATTRACTIVE BLACK MALE

attached, 8i-curious seeks same in Bi-curious, straight-acting Asian male for long-term discreet enor under, age 18-30. 26934

LOOKING FOR SINCERITY
GAM, 32, 5'5', black/brown, professional, work out/slim-built.
Seeking professional GWM 2838, for friendship and possible

Hated cum. Gradually grew indif-ferent to it, now can't get enuf: need daily fix. Suck you off best ever to maximize! \$7795

OAD SPANKS BAD BOYS

Novices welcome. Light to heavier. Sex after preferred, but optional. Me: attractive oral top man 50, 6'5", 350 lbs. You: attractive GM. 21-40, slim. \$6966

33 year-old Bi-curious WM, at-tractive, athletic, 6', 190 lbs, de-scribed as slightly resembling Mel Gibson. Seeking similar, well-endowed, 18-33 BiAM. Let's have coffee, more? \$\mathbf{T}\$6916

COME SEE ABOUT ME

Athletic, rugged, professional, clean-cut, Asian, 53, 5'8", 155, seeking similar clean-shaven, lean or muscular WM with positive attributes for adventurous outdoors, hiking, sports, running

GWM, 44, balanced, sincere, gen-uine, playful, communicative, con-templative, settled, enjoy lots, adventuresome. Prefer N/S, N/O, light drinker, HIV_, sensual, ro-mantic for dating, LTR. 26/6976

RiMarried Male seeks same. Ri Bindarried male seeks same, bindarried male seeks same, bindarried male for mutual discreet enjoyment, friendship. AM 35, health conscious, professional, enjoy outdoors. \$\oldsymbol{\pi}\$6792

Big, fat, huge cock sucker sucks

big, fat, huge cocks. Squirt fo mell \$\overline{\sigma}\$6980

masculine guys with tight, trim builds from 18-45. Given by trim hisexual WM 43 76917

32, 5'8", 166lbs., into wrestling, working out, darts, road trips, bowling, cold beer, hangin' with other similar straight appearing guys. 27810

40, versatile, masculine, smoker, brew skies, Santa Rosa area seeks same 35-50. Good times/outings. Prefer Italian/Mediterranean you?

ONLY 25 WOROS?

Nice, educated Jewish guy, 35, difficult to describe in such a small space, seeks SJM, 35-55, for dating. 277692

KNIGHT SEEKS SEXY PRINCE

sexy, Intelligent W/H/AM, 21-33, who communicates are all all and a second seco who communicates openly for dating, possible LTR. 27076



SEEKING SEXY WOMAN SBF, 18, full-figured, likes going to

movies, reading, talking on the phone, hanging out with friends. Seeking outgoing, fun SF to have fun with. 258402

PLAYFUL GEMINI... looking for fun. WM, 31, N/S, no

children, enjoys opera and camping. Looking for some new friends. Send me a message.

boyfriend, enjoys movies, clubs, bars, music. Seeking hot female, 18-30, to play with. Boyf won't be involved. \$\oldsymbol{\Omega} 8151

This lady bee is 32 and oh, so foxy; has only been buzzed by honey. Desires experienced Queen Bee, fine from head to tail. \$\overline{\alpha}\$6962

Big breasted, Black beauty, at-tractive, long legs, curvy figure, 40ish seeks similar physically,

PRETTY PUERTO RICAN

49, seeking that serious down-to-earth real woman for fun, ad-venture, friendship and more, 32-70. A/H/W. So let's talk. 26922

WE WORSNIP... big tits and big asses, enjoy our hospitality. Bond with us for a real suck and fuck friendship. ☎6844

Adventuresome, sensual, bi fe-male, n/s, n/dr, and safe seeks same in bi female for friendship and exploring our unique plea-sures. \$\mathbf{2}7796\$

FEMININE BI-F SEEKS PRETTY GIRL

White and German. 26933 LOOKING FOR FRIENDSNIP Good-looking, married BiWF, 2B, 5'9", 150lbs, strawberry-blonde/blue, fun personality, look-look of the BiF for the strawberry-blond for BiF for the strawberry-blond

ing for BiF for friendship only at



FROTIC COUPLE WANTED

explore my bi curious fantasy toys, and more. 28296

ple, seeks couple, normal to great shaped, 50-70, younger ok. Alters, sex ceremonies, meet friends. 276981

CRICKETS SING

seeks coupie for mutual oral fun. I am attractive, fit, clean, discreet, HIV-, STD free, professional black male. Call, talk over cocktails. 26561

Soul mate artists and ex-go-go dancers seek 8iF for long walks on the wild side. Dating with options to upgrade to polyfidelity triangle. 276965 **FYCULISIVE HOUSE PARTY**

Exceptional young couples and women only. Indulge yourselves. Flirt, play and explore your desires. Relaxed, sensuous, private atmosphere. Attractive, committed, adventuresome only **7**7813

alt.sex.column

by andrea nemerson

Male G-spot!

Can you give me some tips on the male G-spot? I want to take my man to cloud nine! We have a great sex life. He says it's the best sex he's ever had, but I want to make it even better!

> Love. Cloud Watcher

Dear Cloud:

Male G-spot! Whenever I hear that phrase, I turn into Zippy. I could just keep saying it. Male G-spot! I suppose it's because words for female things and female people (including, of course, "female" itself) are traditionally back-formations of words for male things and male people. "Male G-spot" is an intrinsically ridiculous plirase, but it's delightfully ass-backwards. The proper term is "prostate gland," but that doesn't sound anywhere near as much fun.

An illustration would really come in handy here, but the prostate gland lies inside the body, just above where the internal section of the penis ends and just below the bladder. You cannot (or should not, anyway) attempt to reach it from the front. You can, however, feel it through the rectal wall or (to put it less decorously) up his butt. Insert a slippery finger — gently, please — a couple of inches into his rectum. Push forward (that's down, if he's lying on his stomach) and pay attention. You may feel a smallish, firm object or area, inevitably described as "walnut shaped." Just as likely, you won't, but he will. Results may vary. He may find the sensation unpleasant, or it may be all you hoped for. But please do not expect that you have found the magic button: one touch and blast off. People, generally speaking, do not have an ignition switch. We have nerve endings, which are a lot less predictable. Men make this mistake all the time, expecting that once they find the (female) G-spot, they can just sit back and watch the fireworks. Women don't work that way and neither do men.

Most women who enjoy internal stimulation will still need something clitoral to get over the top. In this, as in so many things, we are not so different. Most men who enjoy this sort of thing, and they are legion, will be very appreciative if you remember that they still have a penis and act accordingly.

Andrea

Dear Andrea:

I have a serious dick-riding problem. The first time I took it up the back from my boyfriend, it really was uncomfortable. Afterward I cried. I didn't get any sensation from it. I didn't want to tell my boyfriend because he really enjoyed it. I tried to get him to let me suck him off instead, but he insisted on anal sex. What should I do? Should I be the man in this relationship and show him how it hurts during anal sex? Or should we just stick to oral sex? I mean, because it's not like I have a G-spot in my anal region. Please give me some answers. I need help.

Saddle Sore

Dear Sore:

I am so confused. Your vocabulary (e.g., "dick-riding") and many of the circumstances described — not to mention the (usually) male name with which you signed your letter - lead me to believe you are, like your partner, male. Which is fine, except that if you're male, you do indeed have a "male G-spot," of sorts, absurd as that phrase may be. Your immediate dismissal of such a possibility makes nie wonder if you are actually female, but if you were, you would probably have mentioned vaginal intercourse ... Oh, hell. I'm going to assume you're a guy. If I'm wrong, some of my advice will not be useful to you, but the rest will be fine, so I'm just gonna do it.

I do not suggest offering to lurt your boyfriend as he has hurt you. Not only isn't it very nice, it isn't very practical. I mean, he isn't exactly likely to take you up on it, is he? Anyway, this sort of "I know you are, but what am I," tit-for-tat behavior is just silly. You don't have to "be the man," but you do have to be a grown-up.

Please do ask yourself if you even want to do this. Many gay men choose to forgo anal intercourse and manage to have perfectly wonderful, satisfying sex lives anyway. Of course, you will have to consider the possibility that your boyfriend is not one of these men and has no wish to become one. This would not mean that you have to go along with him. It may mean that you have to go, though. There are other boy friends in the sea, many of whom would not insist on doing things that make you cry.

If you decide to pursue it, you must insist that your boyfriend do some very gentle exploration with a finger (and about a pint of lube) before he comes anywhere near your butt with his dick again. During this exploration, he will find your prostate. Whether this will a good thing or not, I cannot predict.

Andrea 🛠

A new, full-length, alt.sex.column appears at noon each Friday on sfbg.com. You can reach Andrea at alt.sex.column, Bay Guardian, 520 Hampshire St., S.F., CA 94110 askme@sirius.com; or www.sfbg.com/asc.



FANTASIES FULFILLED

PARIASIES FULFILLED
Uninhibited, sexy, redhead TV
temptress seeks man to please.
Fetish wear lingerie, high heels,
dominant or submissive. Hot,
handsome men can quench my
firey desire. 128318

GOOO-LOOKING Black male, 44, 6*, 180lbs, seeks a TV/TS with very muscu-lar calves. Busty a plus! 28307

LET ME RE THE NASTY GIRL

49 year-old white cross-dresser seeks 60+ male, who'd like a nasty girl. You'll like what I have to offer. \$\oldsymbol{\alpha}\$8045

CUTE BLONGE TS

Very passable, trim and sexy seeks reasonable gentleman or couple for discreet encounters.

2 handsome straight men looking for Latin or Caucasian TS/TV for a night of FUNI Large breasts and butt. Must be anal and oral giverl ☎7812

YOUNG AND BEAUTIFUL

Latina TS, seeks generous daddy who knows how to look after a wild girl like me. Come talk to me. \$\overline{\pi}\$6969

SUBMISSIVE MARIN TV

SUBMISSIVE MARIN TV
Very passable, hot, sheer
panties, nylons, high heels, baby
doll, blonde, red lipstick, perfume. ISO large cocks in need
of extra attention. Prefer married,
in Marin. Oiscreet, clean, no
money, drugs or complications. Or



ANAL DOMINANT SPECIALIST

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Olva Diamond, both voyeur and
exhibitionist-specialist in anal
domination and discipline of obedient, generous WM slaves-will
display boy for public humiliation,
bondage scene at Power Exchange. worship my blg, Black
BBW. 126931

OEVOTED OAGOY

desires to delicately dress his demure daughter and delight her with a delicious dinner. Oiscipline dispensed to denuded darling after dessert. 27804

LOOKING FOR LOVE

Obedient lifestyle, submissive SWM 45, S'10", 160, seeks strict dominant lady for BO/SM, cross dressing and long term re-lationship. \$\alpha 6915\$

SPANK MY FRIENO
Generous WM ISO Oominant F
who would love to help me spank
my sexy 21 year old friend and
watch him cry like a baby.
\$\alpha\$6787

Need help writing your ad? Here are some tips! #1 8e Yourself

- #2 Ask your close friends to de-scribe you #3 8e honest about what you are looking for #4 Have a sense of humor

- about yourself #5 Have fun placing your ad #6 Change your ad frequently to keep it fresh

Placing an ad in Connections is and easyl 1-877-895-7996



HARO SPANKING NEEDED!

hand/strap, Any age/race, No sex 278320

ATTRACTIVE ASIAN FEMALE

Fit SAF, 40s, curvy, silky skin, in search of handsome, fit, classy yet adventurous WM, willing to explore something new slowly. \$\mathbf{T}81S3\$

PERVERTS NEEDED

Marned white couple seeks open-minded single women. \$\overline{\pi}\$8160

PANTIES

How they charm me so. 34 Bi male submissive panty wearer seeks females and couples for panty play, \$6984

OADOY WITH SUGAR

Seeks hot little pussy to put "ice in, pour champagne on and lick I'm rich, tall, sexy, 34 SWM Tease my throbber. \$6937

SLAVE BOY FOR (MAIO SERVICE)

Of co residence (lesbian? any race/age, some bl okay) your de sires, kinky? (Fantasies, needs , toy with body worker. **7**76993

SEXY BLACK LACTATING MOM 44000-28-36, all natural ISO

generous, serious gents, ladies and couples for day and evening lactating pleasures. \$\overline{\alpha}\$7005

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SEEKING EXOTIC AND EROTIC

SWM, 30 years old, 6 donde/blue, 200 lbs. ISO ples, singles and married fe-males, ages 1B-4S especially and any other types, 26997

MONEY FOR HONEY

Busy, healthy, good-looking male seeks female for special arrange-ment: any age or race okay. \$\overline{\sigma}\$6924



FOREST

Can I see you again? We m 1/2S, at vacant North Bea Club. You asked my name, Mel given it to you. 2831S

ANN, WE LOST YOUR NUMBER!

WP couple spoke with you on the phone on January 14th. We wish leave a message. \$297

K T - 22 CHAIR

Squaw Valley, Saturday, 1:27. Canadian snow boarder. Talk of Whistler, Boxing Oay, exchange rate. Fun ride up, but too short.

4TH ST. BAR AND OELI

Raiders/Ravens playoff's. You: white sweater/skirt, left in the third quarter with finend. Me; long, dark hair, muscular, orange t. want to meet you. 278161

Placing an ad in Connections is 1-877-895-7996

CHRIS- MARTINI GRILLE

Chris, we met in Albuquerque in November. Missed each other at

You: Christina, Polish, sliver dress, beautiful smile. Me: Saul, blue sunglasses, three shades melon 8oat Party, New Y Let's meet again. \$\mathbb{T}\$6935

You: Graphic artist, used to live in Washington O.C., you flew on to Tucson, I flew on to Oenver. Ingenue in between made me shy. \$\opprox 6964\$

BROOKLYN BRONZE

Photographer looking for you. Call Tommy. %6928

BOULANGERIE ON POLK

At Green on Jan. S, 2001. Me: Green cap meeting acquaintance. As you left we smiled, walked past and looked back at other. Let's meet! %6974

You had no hair, mine was purple. We hung out around '9S. Really miss you, would like to hook up. Steve L. %6960

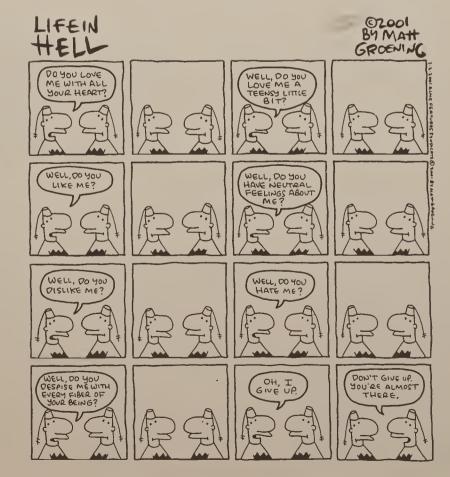
DOC'S CLOCK DOC'S CLOCK
New Year's Eve. JF with long black
hair, you were with several
friends, including an East Indian
guy. Me: shiffeboard player, guy
with glasses, ponytail. Please,
please call even if you are involved, so I could find out
%6992

ALLIE THE SNOWBOAROER

12/30 at Squaw. I'm Craig. We chatted on the ski lift. I didn't have a chance to ask you for coffee. %698S

ROBIN @ DOLORES PARK 12/31. Tall, goatee'd guy enjoyed your sharp mind and warm smile as our kids played. Would like to know more. Coffee? %6943

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SEX & CITY WOMEN'S CLUB

Do you watch Sex & City? Seeking intelligent, fun women ages 25-50, any race, any size, for get togethers, phone chats. Let's rock girls!!! %6714

Adventurous, independent, ou door loving male seeks folks whoe to explore the Bay Area wild places. All ages, hikers ar birders welcome. %5337

FEMALE **ATHLETES**

am a former college athlete and coach new to Bay Area. Looking to meet other female, gay/strt/bi former athletes for team sports and mutual interests. \$6961

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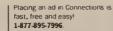
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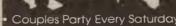
SBF seeking M/F fluent in written and spoken Spanish to coach me in conversational Spanish

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Legal Notices

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 246282

STATEMENT FILE NO. 246282
The following person is doing business as TRIGGER FISH RESTAURANTS, Per 39, Space M-102, San Francisco, CA 94133: STEPHEN C. RAMOS. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on January 26, 2001. This business is conducted by a parthership. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA by M. Lucas Rebston on January 26, 2001. February 7, 14, 21, 28, 2001. L#351905

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 245864 FILE NO. 24S864
The following person is doing business as MEYERS AIR PACIFIC, 677 Hampshire Street, San Francisco, CA 94110: WILLIAM MYERS, 677 Hampshire Street, San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant commenced business under the above fictutious business name on the date January 8, 2001. This business is conducted by an individual Signed WILLIAM MYERS. This statement was filled with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA by Maribel Jaldon, on January 8, 2001. JANUARY 17, 24, 31, FEBRUARY 7, 2001. L# 351601

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 245925
The following person is doing business as LA FRANCE ASSOCIATES, 1242 Market Street, 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94102: STEVEN RAYMOND LA FRANCE, 3903 19th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date January 1, 2001. This business is conducted business under the above fictitious business name on the date January 1, 2001. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Steven R. La France. This statement was conducted by a formation of the conduction of the FILE NO. 245925

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT PLE NO. 245930
The following person is doing business as CO80'S GROCERY, 26812-13t Street, San Francisco, CA 94110' KIM HOR GOV, 1614-4214 Ave, San Francisco, CA 941122. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date January 10, 2001. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed KIM HOR GOV. This statement was filled with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA 94124, 2001. Ltg 3813702
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 246099

FILE NO. 246099
The following person is doing business as AIDAN MC CARTHY CLEANING SERVICES, 424 Ellis Street, San Francisco, CA 94102: AIDAN MC CARTHY, 424 Ellis Street, Apt. 103, San Francisco, CA 94102. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date January 18, 2001. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed AIDAN MC CARTHY. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA by Manbel Jaldon, on January 18, 2001. January 24, 31, February 7, 14, 2001. LT 351704.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 24S984
The following person is doing business as EUROPEAN 8LONDES, 2005 Mission Street, San Francisco. CA 94110:
Daniele 8 Katzenberger, 1705 Lombard Street, #105, San Francisco. CA Registrant commenced for the first street, 1705 Lombard Street, #105, San Francisco. CA Registrant commenced for the first street, 1705 Lombard Street, #105, San Francisco. CA Registrant commenced for distributions business name on the date January 12, 2001.
This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Daniele Matzenberger. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA by Jennifer Lynn Venegas, on January 12, 2001.
January 24, 31, February 7, 14, 2001. L# 351706
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 246144

FILE NO. 246144 FILE NO. 246144
The following person is doing business as & MARKETING ETC. SF, 1862 Filbert Street, San Francisco, CA 94123. Jeanne Brophy, 1862 Filbert Street, San Francisco, CA 94123. Registrant commenced business under the above fictuous business name on the date January 19, 2001. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Jeanne Srophy. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA by Keith Wong, on January 19, 2001. January 24, 31, February 7, 14, 2001. Lt 35170 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 246216

FILE NO. 246216
The following person is doing business as GMG UNDER-GROUND, 191 Middlefield Drive, San Francisco, CA 94132:
James G. McGrillen, 191 Middlefield Drive, San Francisco, CA 94132:
James G. McGrillen, 191 Middlefield Drive, San Francisco, CA 94132:
Business under the above fictious business name on the date January 24, 2001. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed James G. McGrillen. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA by Marble Jaldon, on January 24, 2001. January 31, February 7, 14, 21, 2001. L# 351803
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 300097 FILE NO. 300097
The following persons are doing business as SEARCHLIGHT FILMS, 2600 Tenth Street, Suite 103, Berkeley, CA 94710: #1 Ashley Clarke James, 622 Sixty Street, Oakland, CA 94609 #2 Kathryn Pamela Golden, 622 Sixty Street, Oakland, CA 94609. This business is conducted by a parthership. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business mane listed below in 1981. Signed Kathryn Golden. This statement was filled with the County Clerk of the County of Alameda, CA by Patrick O'Connell, County Clerk, on January 5, 2001.
January 24, February 7, 14, 12, 12011. #3 35173.

January 24, February 7, 14, 21, 2001. L# 3S1703.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. ASSIGNED # 246495

FILE NO. 245952

FILE NO. 245952

The following person is doing business as YOKO'S GIFTSHOP MIYAKO INN, 1800 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115: YOKO Y. ENDO. 841 Stonegate Drive, South San Francisco, CA 94080. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date January 11, 2001. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Yoko Y. Endo. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA by Kit Chau, on January 11, 2001.

JANUARY 17, 24, 31, FEBRU-ARY 7, 2001. L# 351604 ARY 7, 2011. L# 351-604

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR
CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE
TO Whom It May Concern: The
name of the applicant is: EL
CASTILLITO INC. The applicant
listed above are applying to The
Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverage San Francisco, CA 94114. Type
of license Applied for: 41 - 0NSALE BEER AND WINE - EATING
PLACE. Dated: February 5,
2001. February 7, 2001. L#
351901

ORCER TO SHOW CALISE FOR

351901
OROER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME NO. 318054
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO. In the Matter of the Application of ADRIANA TELLO DIAZ For Change Of Name. The application of ADRIANA TELLO DIAZ for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that ADRIANA TELLO DIAZ for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that ADRIANA TELLO DIAZ has filed an application proposing that Her name be changed to ADRIANA 8RAWA. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 2.18 on the thing of thing of the thing of thing of the thing of the thing of the thing of the thing of thing of the thing of thing of the thing of the thing of thing o

of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the San Francisco Say Guardian a newspaper of general circula tleast once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of said heaning. Dated this 19th day of January. 2001. Ronald Evans Quidachay. Judge of said Superior Court. January 24, 31 February 7, 14, 2001. L# 351705

ROBER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME NO. 318079 IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO. For VICTOR BELOV from the Application of VICTOR BELOV for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that VICTOR BELOV for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that VICTOR BELOV for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that VICTOR BELOV for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the San Francisco Bay Guardian a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of January. 2001. Ronald Evans Quidachay Presiding Judge, Judge of Said Superior Court January 31.

of said Superior Court. January 31
February 7, 14, 21, 2001. L#
351801
PROPER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR
CHANGE OF NAME NO. 318314
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR
THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO.
In the Matter of the Application of
ANTHONY JAMES SEMON For
Change Of Name. The application of
ANTHONY JAMES SEMON For
Change of name, having been filled
in Court, and it appearing from
said application that ANTHONY
JAMES SEMON has filed an application proposing that His name be
changed to ANTHONY JAMES SEMON for
change of name, having been filled
and the same of the s

Judge, Judge of said Supenor Court. February 7, 14, 21, 28, 2001. L# 351903

OROER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME NO. 318611
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO. 400 McAllister Street, Room 103, San Francisco. CA 94102-4514 Petition of LAINIE JILL WEISS For Change Of Name. To All Interested Persons: Petitioner LAINIE JILL WEISS filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name, LAINIE JILL WEISS. Froposed Name, LAINIE JALC WEISS. The COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the heaning indicated below to snow cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEAR-ING date: 4/2/01 time: 9:00AM Dept. 218. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four consecutive weeks prior to the date set for the heaning on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county of the county of the petition of the pe

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHING-TON COUNTY OF KING No. 01-3-009412-KMT SUMMONS DY PUBLICATION In the Marriage of SAMANTHAL SAMIS, Petitioner and County of the Cou

This summons is pursuant to RCW.
4.28.100 and Supenor Court Civil
Rule 4.1 of the State of Washing-ton, Dated January 19, 2001,
Signed: Samantha L Sams, Pet-tioner, pro se

tioner, pro se
FILE ORIGINAL OF YOUR RESPONSE WITH THE CLERK OF THE
COURT AT: King County Superior
Court, kent Regional Justice Center, 401 4th Ave. N., Kent, WA
98032 (206) 205-2501. SERVE A
COPY OF YOUR RESPONSE ON:
Samantha L. Sams. 13002 15th
Ave., South, Seattle-8-January
31. February 7, 14, 21, 28,
March 7, 2001, L# 351802



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S5SO, Room In Van Ness Corn dor apartment, Washer/dryer and view. Public transit nearby. Cat OK. Permanent or temporary Ref#4874. The Original San Francisco Roommate Referral Service. www.RoommateLink.com. 415-626-6606

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March 21-April 19

This Valentine's Day I'm not going to causing you future stress. tell you whom you're compatible with. No, I want you to be so sexy that they chase after you and scurry around in your wake desperately trying to get you to notice them, so you can figure out your own compatibility issues from a wide array of potential choices. And you're incredibly sexy when you're being competitive. Win hearts by striving for prizes this week.

Taurus

April 20–May 20

Taureans have great big hearts. There's room in there for several mansions, as well as a fleet of wellmaintained motorcars, ships, and dirigibles, in addition to various sentimental, idealistic, and romantic concerns and people. And since Taureans aren't normally paragons of efficient organization, sometimes things overlap. This week, find romance through shared love of an idea or thing.

Gemini

May 21-June 20

Only an idiot would attempt to tell a Gemini whom they're most compatible with, since Geminis are compatible with just about everybody, except sometimes themselves, but that's a twin thing. Still, compatibility is one thing, and attraction is a different matter. You require lovers with brains and sophistication. Find romantic bliss through intellectual activities this week.

Cancer

June 21-July 22

In the cheesy sci-fi future of Logan's Run, when you're feeling lonely you simply dial up another bored single on the picturephone. If you like what you see, you teleport them right into your apartment. If this technology ever becomes a reality, Cancerians everywhere will rejoice, as your desire to get some loving frequently conflicts with your desire to relax at home. This week, compromise for the sake of romance, which can be found by visiting somebody else's home.

Leo

July 23-Aug. 22

The love that people feel for other people can be quite fun in its own right, but your primary relationship is this week, and romance may follow. with yourself. Do something nice for yourself this week. Then you'll have this "I'm worthy of special treats; I must therefore be hot" kind of attitude (which is generally more likely to attract romantic attention than other kinds of attitudes). This week, love yourself first.

Virgo

Aug. 23-Sept. 22

Since many Virgos are workaholics, and since many Virgos are also insatiable little lust monkeys, Virgos have traditionally chosen their horizontal aerobics partners from among their coworkers. Yet these days that route is fraught with peril and litigation. Romance lurks at work this

week, so take careful consideration of each applicant's potential for

Sept. 23-Oct. 22

Sometimes opposites attract, and sometimes they unite. For example, you might be inexorably pissed off as a result of some politician's recent activities, which moves you to speak out, which causes you to attract the interest of potential squeezes. Let a common enemy bring romance into your life this week.

Scorpio

Oct. 23-Nov. 20

Scorpios frequently walk right past romance because they're too busy looking for sex, or vice versa. And this week, seeing that the planets are out to get you yet again, pursuit of one will invariably result in the other. If you're clever, you can plan a way to make this work to your advantage.

Sagittarius

Nov. 21-Dec. 21

Sagittarians will wander halfway around the planet in search of love. This can get expensive. Have you ever considered that someone might be wandering around the planet looking for someone exactly like you, except they can't find you because you won't hold still? This week, find romance hanging out with people who don't live around here.

Capricorn

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

Some astrologers believe you have more compatibility with some sun signs than others. But this isn't always accurate, for complicated reasons, Besides, it's better to be attractive than attracted. This week, engaging in some charisma-enhancing activity is likely to lead you to romance.

Aquarius

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

I've joined this new activist group, Citizens Fighting to End Sexual Objectification. I figure I'll be able to meet lots of hotties there. Social organizations are good for that sort of thing, especially the ones where there's some kind of high-minded ideal to keep you going during low flirtation stretches. Get civic-minded

Pieces

Feb. 19-March 20

I've been pointing all the signs toward locations for potential romance this week, but unfortunately the locations associated with Pisces traditionally include opium dens, mental institutions, prison, religious retreats, bars ... well, I suppose you could go and try to find romance in a bar, but it seems so corny and trite. Seek intimacy in places where people go to communicate with their subconscious this week. 🌣

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Odd Bodkins by Dan O'Neill





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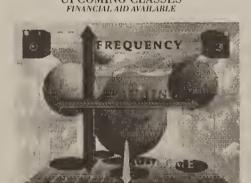
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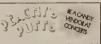
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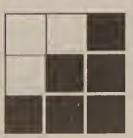


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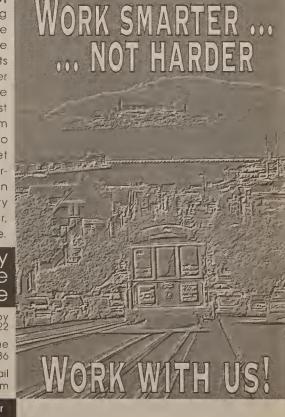
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